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Report: Bolton says Trump tied Ukraine funds to Biden probe

By ZEKE MILLER and ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump told his national security adviser he wanted to maintain a freeze on military assistance to Ukraine until it launched political investigations into his Democratic rivals, according to a report in The New York Times on Sunday. The newspaper said John

Bolton's description of his exchange with Trump appears in drafts of his forthcoming book. The revelation challenges the defense offered up by Trump and his attorneys in his Senate impeachment trial and raises the stakes as the chamber decided this week whether to seek sworn testimony from Bolton and other witnesses.

Continued on Next Page

AMB. BOLTON'S TESTIMONY: 5 KEY REASONS

5 Actively Involved In Addressing President's Freeze On Ukraine Military Aid



Ambassador John Bolton

- ▶ Led process to convince President to release the aid
- ▶ July 26: Amb. Bolton to Morrison: Entire Cabinet supports releasing the aid

In this image from video, a graphic is displayed as impeachment manager Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., argues in favor of an amendment proposed by Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., to subpoena John Bolton during the impeachment trial against President Donald Trump in the Senate at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2020.

Associated Press

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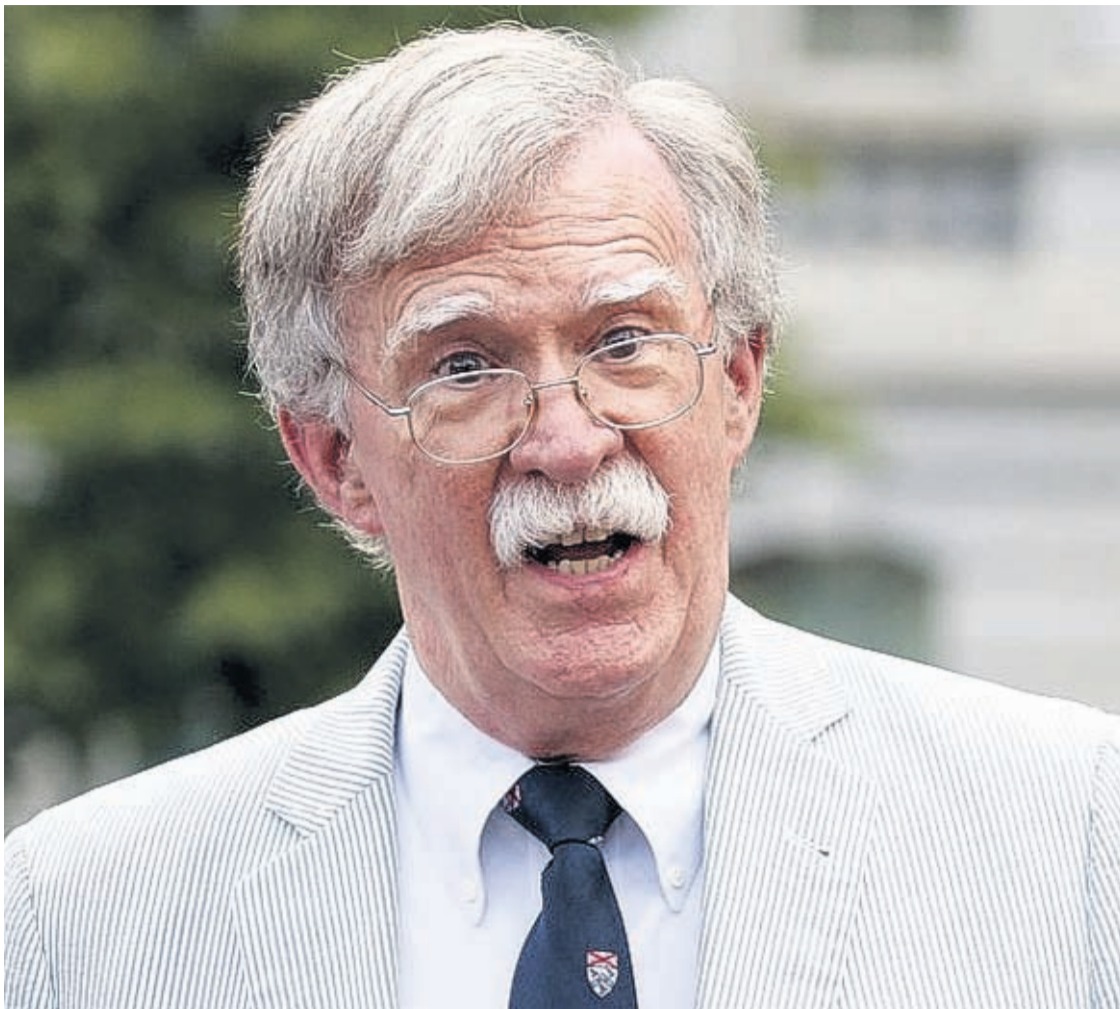
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In this July 31, 2019 file photo, then National security adviser John Bolton speaks to media at the White House in Washington. Bolton says he's 'prepared to testify' in Senate impeachment trial if subpoenaed

Associated Press

Continued from Front

Bolton, who acrimoniously left the White House a day before Trump ultimately released the Ukraine aid on Sept. 11, has already told

lawmakers that he is willing to testify, despite the president's order barring aides from cooperating in the probe.

The White House did not

respond to a request for comment Sunday night.

Democrats need at least four Republicans to vote with them to seek witness testimony. Those prospects

looked unlikely in recent days and it's unclear if the new revelations about Bolton's book will sway any GOP senators.

Democrats quickly sought to ramp up the pressure on their Republican counterparts.

"John Bolton has the evidence," tweeted Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer. "It's up to four Senate Republicans to ensure that John Bolton, Mick Mulvaney, and the others with direct knowledge of President Trump's actions testify in the Senate trial."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell had no immediate comment, according to his office.

The Associated Press has not confirmed the content of Bolton's draft book. A person familiar with the matter told the AP the book had been submitted to the White House for pre-publication review, which is standard for the work of former officials with security clearances. The person insisted on anonymity to discuss the sensitive subject.

The book's publisher, Simon & Schuster, declined to comment.

Sarah Tinsley, an adviser to Bolton, said: "The ambassador's manuscript was transmitted to the White House in hard copy several weeks ago for pre-publication review by the NSC. The ambassador has not passed the draft manuscript to anyone else. Period."

Democrats accuse Trump of abuse of power in withholding the military assis-

tance to Ukraine to push that country to mount investigations into Democrats, including former Vice President Joe Biden and his son Hunter, who served on the board of a Ukraine gas company, Burisma, while his father was in office.

On Saturday, the president's attorneys said during their opening day of defense arguments that there was no evidence that Trump made the military aid contingent on the country announcing an investigation into Biden.

The Times also reported that Bolton says he told Attorney General William Barr that he was mentioned by Trump on his July 25 call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. A Justice Department official on Sunday disputed Bolton's account that he had told Barr about the president's call with Zelenskyy but did say that Bolton had called Barr to raise concerns about Giuliani's shadow diplomacy efforts.

Trump on Wednesday told reporters in Davos, Switzerland, that he didn't want Bolton to testify before the Senate. "The problem with John is it's a national security problem," Trump said. "He knows some of my thoughts. He knows what I think about leaders. What happens if he reveals what I think about a certain leader and it's not very positive and then I have to deal on behalf of the country?"

He added: "It's going to be very hard. It's going to make the job very hard." □

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Arizona, California cases push U.S. tally of new virus to 5

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The U.S. has five confirmed cases of the new virus from China, all among people who traveled to the city at the center of the outbreak, health officials said Sunday. Two new cases were reported Sunday — one in Los Angeles County in California and the other in Maricopa County, Arizona. The latter case was someone with ties to Arizona State University who did not live in school housing, state health officials said. Officials with the Arizona Department of Health Ser-

vice didn't immediately release the gender or age of the Maricopa County patient, but said the person wasn't severely ill and was in isolation to keep the illness from spreading. The three previously reported cases were a patient in Orange County, California; a man in his 30s in Washington state; and a woman in her 60s from Chicago. The virus can cause fever, coughing, wheezing and pneumonia. It is a member of the coronavirus family that's a close cousin to the deadly SARS and MERS


viruses that have caused outbreaks in the past. Dozens of people have died from the virus in China, which has issued massive travel bans in hard-hit sections of that country to try to stem spread of the virus. The U.S. consulate in Wuhan announced Sunday that it would evacuate its personnel and some private citizens aboard a charter flight. The U.S. patients generally have been reported to be in good condition and were hospitalized in isolation for monitoring. □





A sales clerk at a pharmacy rings up a purchase of face masks as fears of the coronavirus continues, Friday, Jan 24, 2020 in Chicago.

Associated Press

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Democratic presidential candidate, former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg speaks to campaign workers and supporters in Minneapolis Thursday, Jan. 23, 2020, as he opens the first field office in Minnesota and meets with local community leaders and voters to share his vision for the country.

Associated Press

Bloomberg vows steadfast commitment to U.S. aid for Israel

By **KATHLEEN RONAYNE AND ELANA SCHOR**

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Bloomberg on Sunday made his case for the presidency to fellow Jewish Americans, vowing not to revisit U.S. aid to Israel — an approach that contrasts Bloomberg with several of his Democratic rivals, including his only fellow Jew-

ish candidate in the race, Bernie Sanders.

Bloomberg, at a speech announcing a coalition of Jewish American supporters in Florida, vowed he would "never impose conditions" on U.S. military aid to Israel if elected. Sanders and rivals Elizabeth Warren and Pete Buttigieg have all left open the option of leveraging that aid to dissuade the Israeli government from annexation and settlement expansions in the West Bank.

"As president, I will always have Israel's back," said Bloomberg, who served three terms as mayor of New York.

It wasn't the only distinction Bloomberg drew with Sanders, a U.S. senator from Vermont. In a line that drew laughs from the audience, he said he was the only Jewish candidate in the race not looking to "turn America into a kibbutz," referring to communal Jewish farming cooperatives. Sanders volunteered on a leftist kibbutz in the 1960s, and has championed a democratic socialism that Bloomberg opposes.

Bloomberg's wide-ranging speech touched on rising acts of violence against American Jews, criticism of President Donald Trump for withdrawing from the Iranian nuclear deal, a strong defense of Israel and the

importance of protecting all marginalized groups from hatred and threats.

"This time is a time of great anxiety in the Jewish community, both around the world, and here at home — as ancient hatreds are given fresh currency with new technologies," he said. "We are confronted by signs that we thought we would never see outside of old black-and-white newsreels: synagogues attacked, Jews murdered, Nazis marching brazenly and openly by torchlight."

But Bloomberg made only passing reference to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, saying he "will not wait three years" to release a peace plan for the region. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, embattled amid an indictment on corruption charges, and his political rival Benny Gantz were set to meet with Trump in Washington this week as the U.S. administration prepares to release its long-in-the-works Middle East peace plan.

Former Vice President Joe Biden, like Bloomberg, has already ruled out the idea of leveraging U.S. military aid to Israel, which has expanded settlements in the West Bank that the Trump administration recently decided to no longer consider a violation of international law. □

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Houston mayor, others help residents after deadly blast

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston's mayor and others say they will work to provide assistance to residents whose homes were damaged after a massive explosion at a warehouse that killed two workers and injured 20 others.

Mayor Sylvester Turner on Saturday walked through the impacted neighborhoods in northwest Houston and spoke with residents who were cleaning up after Friday's explosion. Cleanup and repair efforts continued Sunday.

"These people's lives have been devastated by the Houston explosion. We are not going to forget about them," Turner said.

The explosion happened about 4:30 a.m. Friday inside a building at Watson Grinding and Manufacturing, which makes valves and provides thermal-spray

coatings for equipment in various industries, authorities said.

Employees Frank Flores and Gerardo Castorena were killed.

In a statement released Saturday, Castorena's family said, "It's with a heavy heart that we had to say goodbye to a loving father, son, brother, and friend yesterday morning. We do ask for privacy as we grieve during this time. Thank you all to those for your kind words and support as we get through this difficult time."

Authorities say an additional 20 people were injured — two other warehouse workers and 18 others from neighboring homes and businesses. The explosion's cause is being investigated.

More than 200 homes in surrounding neighborhoods

were damaged as the force of the blast shattered windows, knocked down ceilings, bent garage doors and moved some homes off their foundations.

Dozens of volunteers were out helping residents on Saturday.

More than 80 of the volunteers were from Restore Houston, a network of area churches dedicated to assisting families whose homes were damaged from flooding during Hurricane Harvey in 2017.

"We'll be doing some work on homes, boarding up windows, tarping some roofs, but more importantly we'll be loving on our neighbors and making sure they are aware that they are not alone in this," Josef Klam, a pastor with Chapelwood United Methodist Church, told the Houston Chronicle. □



Houston Fire Department firefighters stand near a body that is surrounded by debris after a nearby explosion in Houston, Friday, Jan. 24, 2020.

Associated Press



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Three years later, Trump travel ban heads back to court

By DENISE LAVOIE

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — After the U.S. Supreme Court upheld President Donald Trump's ban on travelers from several predominantly Muslim countries in 2018, the ruling appeared to shut down legal challenges that claimed the policy was rooted in anti-Muslim bias. But a federal appeals court in Richmond is set to hear arguments from civil rights groups hoping to keep the challenges alive.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will hear arguments Tuesday in three lawsuits filed by U.S. citizens and permanent residents whose relatives have been unable to enter the U.S. because of the travel ban, which was first imposed shortly after Trump took office in January 2017.

The court is being asked to decide whether a federal judge in Maryland made a mistake when he refused to dismiss constitutional claims made in a lawsuit filed by the International Refugee Assistance Project despite a 2018 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in a Hawaii case that found the travel ban "a legitimate grounding in national security concerns."

The Justice Department argues the high court's ruling effectively puts an end to the legal challenges. In a 5-4 ruling, a sharply divided Supreme Court found that the travel ban was within the considerable authority U.S. presidents have over immigration and their responsibility for keeping the nation safe. The court rejected claims that the policy was rooted in anti-Muslim bias based in large part on Trump's own tweets



In this Jan. 29, 2017 file photo, demonstrators carrying signs chant as they protest outside of the White House in Washington during a demonstration to denounce President Donald Trump's executive order banning travel to the U.S. by citizens of Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia and Yemen.

and public statements, including his call during the presidential campaign for "a complete and total shut-down of Muslims entering the United States."

Trump has said the ban is aimed at making the U.S. safer from potentially hostile foreigners.

"The Court rejected the argument that the Proclamation could be explained only by anti-Muslim bias, and held instead that the Proclamation was rationally grounded in legitimate national-security concerns and foreign policy objectives," Justice Department lawyers argue in a legal brief.

The Trump administration is asking the 4th Circuit to dismiss the lawsuits.

But the plaintiffs' attorneys

say the Supreme Court merely rejected a preliminary injunction to block the travel ban and did not decide the merits of the constitutional claims. The plaintiffs allege the travel ban violates several constitutional rights, including the First Amendment's Establishment Clause prohibiting the government from favoring one religion over another.

"The Trump administration has supplied ample and damning evidence of its discriminatory intent, time and time again, so we're hopeful that any court — any fair-minded observer — will see it the way we do, that it is a Muslim ban that's aimed at the Muslim community and Islam," said Gadeir Abbas, a se-

nior litigation attorney with the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

Federal appeals courts — including the 4th Circuit — had upheld rulings from federal judges who blocked the travel ban from taking effect. But the Supreme Court came to a different conclusion.

The travel ban's third iteration — now in effect — applies to travelers from Iran, Libya, Somalia, Syria and Yemen. It also affects two non-Muslim countries, keeping out travelers from North Korea and some Venezuelan government officials and their families.

The groups suing the Trump administration say the 4th Circuit is not being asked to decide the merits of the legal challenges. They say

they are only asking the appeals court to find — as U.S. District Court Judge Theodore Chuang did — that their lawsuits can move forward to the discovery phase, when they will seek records from the Trump administration on the origins of the ban and how it has been enforced over the last three years.

In rejecting the government's motion to dismiss the lawsuits, Chuang found that the plaintiffs "have provided detailed allegations for why the (travel ban) is not rationally related to its stated national security interests and is instead grounded in the illegitimate and unconstitutional purpose of disadvantaging Muslims."

Jonathan Turley, a professor at George Washington University Law School, said that while the Muslim groups can legitimately argue that the Supreme Court did not require outright dismissal of their legal challenges, the high court's ruling did put a significant crimp in their arguments.

"It strikes me as willful blindness to pretend the opinion did not substantially undermine these cases," he said. "It's very difficult to read the Supreme Court opinion and not see considerable support for the arguments of the administration."

Justin Cox, an attorney with the International Refugee Assistance Project, said Muslim advocates will continue to try to prove that the ban is unconstitutional. "I understand why they want us to go away," he said. "But nothing requires us to go away and we are going to keep fighting." □

Associated Press

4 Missouri River states unite to try to limit flooding

By GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas and Missouri are joining forces for a study that will look for ways the states can limit flooding along the Missouri River and give them information about how wetter weather patterns could require changes in the way the U.S. government manages the basin's reservoirs. The states are pooling their money to pay for half of a \$400,000 study with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to measure how much water flows down the Missouri River.

The states hope to present a united front to federal officials to gain more influence over how the river is managed after devastating floods in 2011 and 2019. "We've got to look at the data, but it's certainly possible that we're going to see more wet years," Republican Nebraska Gov. Ricketts said at a recent media briefing. "We need to collect the data first, and then we can address with the Corps what they ought to be doing."

Officials from the states plan to meet next month to decide how to proceed. A lot of the data the Corps uses to manage the Missouri River is outdated and doesn't account for the two historic floods over the last decade, said Jeff Fassett, director of the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources. The Corps did not respond to requests for an interview.

"We need to be factoring in new information as we look forward," Fassett said. "Nobody knows whether this is the new normal. What if 2023 looks like 2019? If this happens again, we need to be better prepared."

The effort comes as higher global temperatures are causing glaciers to melt into the oceans and producing extreme weather conditions that are more intense and destructive than ever before. The states are bracing for more frequent and severe floods, even as some of their top officials, including Ricketts, question

mainstream climate science.

Fassett said the states also want to identify "pinch points" on the river that could cause a water build-up during a flood.

He pointed to a crossing at Nebraska Highway 2, where the river spilled over its levees and covered Interstate 29 last year. Crews responded by raising and lengthening the bridge to let more water flow underneath.

States that work together tend to carry more sway with the federal government because don't make conflicting requests, said Tim Hall, the hydrology resources coordinator for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Hall said the partnership is similar to a group of upper Mississippi River states that joined forces in 1981 to mitigate flooding.

"It's a lot easier than one state trying to negotiate with the Corps," Hall said. "It can be done, but it's more challenging."

The partnership also encourages states to share data and not work against one another, Hall said.

"In the big picture, we all want to accomplish the same thing," Hall said.

The Missouri is the longest river in North America, running from western Montana through the Dakotas and touching Nebraska, Iowa and Kansas before cutting across Missouri and entering the Mississippi River at St. Louis.

The states it touches once had a coalition known as Missouri River Association of States and Tribes, but it eventually disbanded after Iowa and Nebraska withdrew amid a dispute with Montana over how to manage the river.

Nebraska and Iowa wanted more more water released from upstream reservoirs earlier in the year to prevent summer flooding, but Montana was concerned about effects on wildlife and recreation during drought years.

The new, four-state coalition would focus on flood mitigation. □

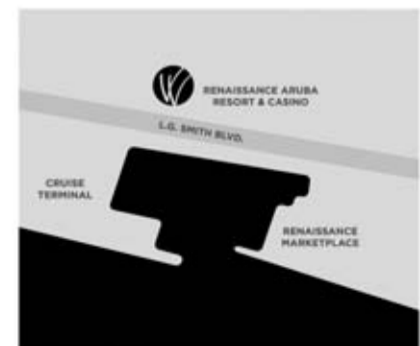


In this March 16, 2019 file photo, surveyors with the USGS take measurements of the Missouri River in Omaha, Neb., as the river overflows its banks. Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas and Missouri are joining forces for a study that will look for ways the states can limit flooding along the Missouri River and give them information about how wetter weather patterns could require changes to the federal government's management of the basin's reservoirs.

Associated Press



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Prime Minister of Netherlands Mark Rutte attends a meeting with Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte at Palazzo Chigi government's office, in Rome, Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2020.

Dutch premier issues historic apology at Holocaust memorial

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte apologized Sunday for the failure of officials in the Nazi-occupied country during World War II to do more to prevent the deportation and murder of just over 100,000 Jews. Rutte made the historic apology at the country's annual Holocaust commemoration in Amsterdam that came on the eve of the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz Nazi death camp. While he praised resistance fighters, citizens who

helped Jews to hide from the Nazi occupiers and workers who went on strike in support of Jews, Rutte said it was collectively not enough. "Too little protection. Too little help. Too little recognition," the premier said. "Now the last survivors are still among us, I apologize today on behalf of the government for the authorities' actions at the time," Rutte added. Holocaust survivor Zoni Weisz told Dutch national broadcaster NOS that it was an emotional moment. □

Zelenskiy marks Auschwitz anniversary honoring survivors

KRAKOW, Poland (AP) — Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy paid tribute Sunday evening to Holocaust survivors, telling them on the eve of the 75th anniversary of the death camp's liberation that they are an example to humanity. Zelenskiy spoke of the importance of protecting humanitarian values and freedom against the hatred that threatens civilization in a short speech at a dinner in Krakow organized by the World Jewish Congress. He received a standing ovation for his words. "You are truly amazing. You

are strong and incredibly courageous. So you are an example that we should follow," he said through an interpreter. "The Holocaust is named the dark period in the history of humanity. And you are the rays of sunshine that penetrated the darkness." Zelenskiy, who is of Jewish descent and has family members who perished in the Holocaust, is to attend commemorations Monday at the site of the Auschwitz-Birkenau former death camp, where 1.1 million people were murdered by Nazi German forces. Most of the victims were Jews. □

Germany urged to fight anti-Semitism to avoid Jewish exodus



German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas arrives for a meeting of EU foreign ministers at the Europa building in Brussels, Monday, Jan. 20, 2020.

Associated Press

By **GEIR MOULSON**
BERLIN (AP) — Germany's foreign minister is calling for strengthened efforts against anti-Semitism to ward off the possibility that many Jews decide to leave the country. Heiko Maas said in an article Sunday for the weekly *Der Spiegel* that German politicians must do more "but there is one thing they can't do: replace solidarity in everyday life." Maas' comments came a

day before the 75th anniversary of the Soviet liberation of the Nazis' Auschwitz death camp and at a time of rising concern in Germany and elsewhere in Europe about anti-Semitism. In October, a man tried to force his way into a synagogue in Halle on Judaism's holiest day, later killing two passers-by before being arrested. The suspect posted an anti-Jewish screed before the attack. Maas said anti-Semitism

has become part of everyday life now for Jews in Germany and "it doesn't surprise me that nearly every second Jew in Germany has thought about leaving the country." "We must urgently take countermeasures so that such thoughts don't turn into bitter reality and it doesn't come to a massive exodus of Jews from Germany," he wrote. "That people of Jewish faith no longer feel at home here is a real nightmare — and a disgrace, 75 years after the liberation of Auschwitz." Maas said too few European Union countries have national commissioners against anti-Semitism. He said when Germany holds the EU presidency later this year, it will step up the fight against online hate and disinformation. He said the security of Jewish facilities and communities must be improved throughout Europe. Germany will give the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe 500,000 euros (\$551,000) this year to that end. □

France reports 27% increase in anti-Semitic acts

PARIS (AP) — Anti-Semitic acts increased in France last year by 27%, acts against Muslims inched higher while anti-Christian acts remained stable but highest of all, France's interior minister said Sunday, denouncing the situation as intolerable. On top of that, acts described as bearing a racist and xenophobic character, mostly threats, more than doubled between 2018 and 2019 — increasing from 496 to 1,142, according to a statement by Interior Minister Christophe Castaner. "Expressions and acts of hate, whether they target origins or religious beliefs, whether they take the form of physical violence or ver-

bal threats, are an intolerable attack on our common project, the foundations of our social ... pact," the statement said. To mobilize against forces of hate, and its banalization, the ministry is creating a network of special investigators around France. And it has designated experts on racism and anti-Semitism in gendarmeries and departments, the statement said. The statistics revealing the "permanence of anti-Semitic hate" take on a particular meaning as the world marks the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz Nazi death camp, he noted. A total of 687 anti-Semitic acts were counted in 2019,

compared to 541 the previous year. The account by the interior ministry showed that 151 of the acts were of the most severe category, "actions," meaning attacks on people or their possessions, theft or physical acts. There were 536 threats. Anti-Muslim acts were counted at 154 compared to 100 in 2018. Anti-Christian acts were stable in 2019, but the figure was high at 1,052, mainly attacks on goods or property with a religious character. An online platform that would allow investigators to chat with witnesses and victims of hate is being set up, among a series of new measures now in place or in the works, the statement said. □

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Iraqi protesters defy top cleric and return to the streets

By SAMYA KULLAB

BAGHDAD (AP) — One protester was killed by security forces after hundreds of anti-government protesters flooded the streets of Iraq's capital and southern provinces on Sunday, defying a powerful Iraqi religious leader who recently withdrew his support from the popular movement. Separately, five Katyusha rockets crashed into a riverbank near the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone without causing any injuries or serious damages, a statement from U.S. Joint Operations Command said. One rocket landed inside the embassy walls, an Iraqi security official said. The official spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations. It is the third such attack this month and the perpetrators were not immediately known. Iraqi Prime Minister Adel Abdul-Mahdi condemned the rocket attack that targeted the U.S. Embassy. In a statement, he asserted Iraq's commitment to "protecting all diplomatic missions." Security forces fired tear gas and live rounds to disperse the crowds from the capital's Khilani Square, medical and security officials said. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations. One protester was killed and six wounded af-

ter security forces fired live rounds in nearby Wathba Square later in the evening. At least 28 demonstrators were reported wounded by Iraqi security forces in the first hours of Sunday's street rallies. The mass protests started in October over widespread government corruption and a lack of public services and jobs. They quickly grew into calls for sweeping changes to Iraq's political system that was imposed after the 2003 U.S. invasion. Iraqi security forces have responded harshly. At least 500 protesters have been killed since the unrest began. Iraq also has been roiled by U.S.-Iran tensions that threatened a regional war after an American drone strike this month killed top Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani near Baghdad. The U.S. attack pushed the Shiite cleric and political leader, Muqtada al-Sadr, to turn his influence toward demanding an American troop withdrawal and holding an anti-U.S. rally. Analysts said al-Sadr, who often mobilizes his followers on the street to buttress his political influence, was using the anti-U.S. protest he staged as leverage in political negotiations among Iraq's elites to select the next premier. Al-Sadr has long been an unpredictable maverick in Iraqi politics, and is the only Shiite leader who has chal-

lenged both Iran and the U.S. He also dropped his support for the anti-government movement on Friday, a move that analysts said was meant to buttress his political reputation during a time of national turmoil. But by Sunday morning, it had the opposite effect as protesters pushed back. Hundreds of protesters, mostly students, marched Sunday through key squares in the capital and southern Iraq to show their continued support for the anti-government movement, despite al-Sadr's reversal of position. "The demonstrations have become stronger now because of what happened," said Zaidoun, 26, a protest organizer in Baghdad. Many demonstrators chanted slogans against the populist preacher. The movement opposes Iraq's sectarian system and both U.S. and Iranian influence in Iraqi affairs. Some protesters were worried, however, that the departure of al-Sadr's supporters and his militia members from Baghdad's Tahrir Square, the hub of the protest movement, could spark a renewed security crackdown. Al-Sadr's followers had been giving protesters protective cover. On Saturday, hours after al-Sadr's supporters left protest sites in Baghdad and some southern cities, including Basra, security forces



Anti-government protesters run as security forces fire tear gas to disperse them during a clash in Baghdad, Iraq, Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020.

Associated Press

swooped in to clear areas of demonstrators and torch their sit-in tents. At least four protesters were killed in the crackdown, officials told The Associated Press. The Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights said 12 protesters had been killed in the last 48 hours, with nine of those in Baghdad, and a startling 230 wounded. By Saturday evening however, and into Sunday, crowds of protesters were returning to Tahrir Square, following calls by anti-government activists. "In the beginning, when he (al-Sadr) called his followers to leave we were shocked," said Noor, a protest organizer who gave only her first name for security reasons. "But by the evening on Saturday, we breathed a sigh of relief." The future for the popular movement, she was quick to add, was still uncertain. "No one knows what will

happen tomorrow. There will be more attacks — we expect that." With al-Sadr out of the picture, protesters said the only top leader on their side was Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, Iraq's most revered Shiite cleric. Many said they were hoping his weekly Friday sermon would boost morale ahead of a major planned protest for Jan. 31. In a statement posted online, al-Sadr called on the protesters to return their movement to its "initial course," in what many anti-government activists interpreted as a veiled threat. The statement added that al-Sadr could boost his support for the "heroic" security forces if protesters didn't heed his calls. Al-Sadr had called on his followers to stage a rival protest targeting the U.S. Embassy on Sunday, before rescinding the order shortly after. □

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Turkish teams hunt for quake survivors as death toll hits 38

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Working against the clock in freezing temperatures, Turkish rescue teams pulled more survivors from collapsed buildings Sunday, days after a powerful magnitude 6.8 earthquake hit the country's east. Rescued survivors wept with gratitude for their efforts. Turkish authorities said the death toll rose to at least 38 people from the magnitude 6.8 earthquake that struck Friday night. Turkish television showed Ayse Yildiz, 35, and her 2-year-old daughter Yusra being dragged out of

the rubble of a collapsed apartment building in the city of Elazig. They had been trapped for 28 hours. The quake also injured over 1,600 people but at least 45 survivors have been pulled alive from the rubble so far, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan told a news conference Sunday in Istanbul. More than 780 aftershocks rocked the region as over 3,500 rescue experts scrambled through wrecked buildings to reach survivors, working around the clock. Rescue teams concentrated their efforts in the city's



In this image taken from video made available by Ankara Municipality Fire Department shows a rescuer pulling out a girl from the rubble of a collapsed building, in Elazig, Turkey, Saturday Jan. 25, 2020. A two-year-old girl and her mother were pulled from the rubble of an apartment building on Saturday more than 24 hours after an earthquake struck eastern Turkey.

Associated Press

Mustafa Pasa neighborhood and the nearby town of Sivrice. One rescued couple was reunited with a Syrian student who had helped to dig them out of their collapsed home with his hands. "He is our hero and angel," a weeping Dudane Aydin said of Mahmud al Osman in an interview on Turkey's state-run Anadolu news agency. Her husband Zulkuf added: "When I saw the light of Mahmud's phone, we started shouting for help. Then we knew we would get out." He said Mahmud helped him out but when the student tried to rescue his wife her leg was trapped by debris. "Some locals held Mahmud by the legs and stretching towards my wife he worked to save her. After saving my wife, he tried to help others," the man said. As overnight temperatures dropped to -5 degrees Celsius (23 degrees Fahrenheit), emergency teams set up more than 9,500 tents for displaced residents

and distributed 17,000 hot meals. The agency said 76 buildings were destroyed and more than 1,000 were damaged by the quake. Unmanned aerial drones were being used to survey damaged neighborhoods and coordinate rescue efforts. The Turkish Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency said 20 of the aftershocks measured magnitude 4.0 or above, including a magnitude 4.3 quake that hit the neighboring province of Malatya on Sunday morning, Erdogan said every effort was being made to find survivors and promised to house displaced residents as soon as possible. "Turkey has begun to heal the wounds of this great disaster in unity, togetherness and coming together," he said. At least 104 people were receiving hospital treatment after the quake, 13 of them in intensive care, Health Minister Fahrettin Koca said. Interior Minister Suleyman Soyly promised financial

help for the victims of the quake. He then attended the funeral of five members of the same family — a married couple, their daughter and two grandchildren — with other ministers and officials. The 12-year-old boy was buried in the same coffin as his baby sister. "You arrived two months ago. I wish you had stayed a little longer," the children's father, Serhat Aslan, said of his daughter. On Saturday, the president visited the disaster zone to inspect the rescue operation, meet with injured people in the hospital and attend the funeral of a mother and son. Erdogan also condemned what he called a "smear campaign" on social media by those questioning the Turkish government's preparations for earthquakes. A prosecutor in Ankara has opened an investigation into social media posts about Friday's quake. Earthquakes are frequent in Turkey, which sits atop two major fault lines. Across Turkey, there was an outpouring of support for the quake victims. □

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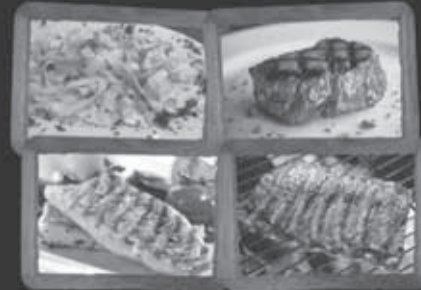
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'This is huge': Locust swarms in Africa are worst in decades

By **BEN CURTIS, JOSPHAT KASIRE and CARA ANNA Associated Press**

KATITIKA, Kenya (AP)—The hum of millions of locusts on the move is broken by the screams of farmers and the clanging of pots and pans. But their noise-making does little to stop the voracious insects from feasting on their crops in this rural community.

The worst outbreak of desert locusts in Kenya in 70 years has seen hundreds of millions of the bugs swarm into the East African nation from Somalia and Ethiopia. Those two countries have not had an infestation like this in a quarter-century, destroying farmland and threatening an already vulnerable region with devastating hunger.

"Even cows are wondering what is happening," said Ndunda Makanga, who spent hours Friday trying to chase the locusts from his farm. "Corn, sorghum, cowpeas, they have eaten everything."

When rains arrive in March and bring new vegetation across much of the region, the numbers of the fast-breeding locusts could grow 500 times before drier weather in June curbs their spread, the United Nations says.

"We must act immediately," said David Phiri of the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization, as donors huddled in Kenya's capital, Nairobi, a three-hour drive away.

About \$70 million is needed to step up aerial pesticide spraying, the only effective way to combat them,

the U.N. says. That won't be easy, especially in Somalia, where parts of the country are in the grip of the al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab extremist group. The rose-colored locusts turn whole trees pink, clinging to branches like quivering ornaments before taking off in hungry, rustling clouds.

Astonished by the finger-length insects, children dash here and there, waving blankets or plucking at branches to shake the locusts free. One woman, Kanini Ndunda, batted at them with a shovel.

Even a small swarm of the insects can consume enough food for 35,000 people in a single day, said Jens Laerke of the U.N. humanitarian office in Geneva.

Farmers are afraid to let their cattle out for grazing, and their crops of millet, sorghum and maize are vulnerable, but there is little they can do.

About 70,000 hectares (172,973 acres) of land in Kenya are already infested. "This one, ai! This is huge," said Kipkoech Tale, a migratory pest control specialist with the agriculture ministry. "I'm talking about over 20 swarms that we have sprayed. We still have more. And more are coming."

A single swarm can contain up to 150 million locusts per square kilometer of farmland, an area the size of almost 250 football fields, regional authorities say.

One especially large swarm in northeastern Kenya measured 60 kilometers long by 40 kilometers wide (37 miles



A farmer looks back as she walks through swarms of desert locusts feeding on her crops, in Katitika village, Kitui county, Kenya, Friday, Jan. 24, 2020.

Associated Press

long by 25 miles wide).

Kenya needs more spraying equipment to supplement the four planes now flying, Tale said. Ethiopia also has four.

They also need a steady supply of pesticides, said Francis Kitoo, deputy director of agriculture in southeastern Kenya's Kitui county.

"The locals are really scared because they can consume everything," Kitoo said. "I've never seen such a big number."

The locusts eat the fodder for animals, a crucial source of livelihood for families who now worry how they will pay for expenses like school fees, he said.

His own concern about the locusts?

"They will lay eggs and start another generation," he said.

A changing climate has contributed to "exceptional" breeding conditions, said Nairobi-based climate scientist Abubakr Salih Babiker.

Migrating with the wind, the locusts can cover up to 150 kilometers (93 miles) in a single day. They look like tiny aircraft lazily crisscrossing the sky.

They are now heading toward Uganda and fragile South Sudan, where almost half the country faces hunger as it emerges from civil war. Uganda has not had such an outbreak since the 1960s and is already on alert.

The locusts also are moving steadily toward Ethiopia's Rift Valley, the breadbasket for Africa's second-most populous country, the U.N. says.

"The situation is very bad

but farmers are fighting it in the traditional way," said Buni Orissa, a resident of Ethiopia's Sidama region. "The locusts love cabbage and beans. This may threaten the shaky food security in the region."

Even before this outbreak, nearly 20 million people faced high levels of food insecurity across the East African region long challenged by periodic droughts and floods.

As exasperated farmers look for more help in fighting one of history's most persistent pests, the FAO's Locust Watch offers little consolation.

"Although giant nets, flamethrowers, lasers and huge vacuums have been proposed in the past, these are not in use for locust control," the U.N. agency says. □

Peruvians choose new lawmakers to replace ousted Congress

By **FRANKLIN BRICENO and CHRISTINE ARMARIO**

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Peruvian President Martín Vizcarra urged citizens to "show love" for their country and vote Sunday for a new slate of legislators nearly four months after his polemical decision to dissolve Congress.

The South American nation roiled by entrenched corruption is grappling with widespread voter apathy that could pose a challenge for Vizcarra's bid to transform the legislature.

Polling leading up to the vote indicated that fewer than one in three voters had decided on a candidate, with nearly half still undecided and one in five planning to cast a protest ballot by selecting none of the more than 2,300 candidates in the running. "One way to show our love for the homeland is strengthening our democracy," Vizcarra told journalists as he cast his ballot. "And how do we do that? Showing up to-



A man leaves a voting booth after voting in the congressional elections at a public school at the Villa El Salvador shantytown of Lima, Peru, Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020.

Associated Press

day to vote."

Vizcarra stunned the nation in late September when he invoked seldom-used executive powers to shut down the opposition-controlled legislature he accused of shielding crooked politicians and blocking his anti-corruption drive.

The decision plunged Peru into its deepest constitutional crisis in nearly three

decades, with anti-Vizcarra lawmakers accusing him of overstepping the law and briefly swearing into office their own president. Nonetheless, the move was widely popular with the public and was upheld by the Constitutional Tribunal. The president is hoping the new Congress will break his stalemate with the legislature.

The 130 new lawmakers will only hold office until scheduled presidential and congressional elections in 2021 and will not be allowed to run in next year's vote.

Data from international polling firm Ipsos indicated that none of the 22 competing parties was likely to get more than 10 percent of the vote, suggesting the likelihood of a fragmented legislature.

"No one party has been able to capitalize on the wave of anti-establishment sentiment," said Abhijit Surya, Peru analyst with The Economist Intelligence Unit. Vizcarra rose to power in 2018 after President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski resigned following months of turmoil related to previously undisclosed financial ties to Odebrecht, the Brazilian construction giant that has admitted to paying nearly \$800 million in bribes across 12 countries in exchange for lucrative public works contracts. Peru's past four presidents are all under

investigation, as is opposition leader Keiko Fujimori, whose party previously dominated Congress.

Adriana Urrutia, director of the political science program at Antonio Ruiz de Montoya University in Lima, said Peruvians are now more inclined to vote for individual candidates than parties the public has lost confidence in.

"That makes building representative institutions difficult," she said.

Many voters were skeptical that even with a new Congress much will change.

Victor Salazar said he was doubtful that incoming legislators given less than two years in office will have enough time to pass through meaningful anti-corruption reforms.

"I don't have a lot of hope, to tell the truth," he said.

Others were putting their hope in electing candidates new to politics and free of the corruption-tarnished history of many past lawmakers. □



In this Nov. 29, 2019 file photo, Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador listens to questions during his daily morning press conference at the National Palace in Mexico City.

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — One day after a vigilante group revealed that it was using children as young as 8 as "recruits" for armed defense patrols, Mexico's president said Thursday that drug cartels too are recruiting ever-younger kids.

The whole issue has sparked a debate in Mexico over the use of children in armed confrontations, with rights groups saying the practice threatens not only kids' safety, but their mental health.

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said that because social programs are giving more youths opportunities to study or work, drug cartels are having trouble finding gunmen, leading them to recruit children.

"The gangs are having trouble getting hit men, so they are recruiting more children and young people, because there is competition," López Obrador said. "The thing is, the social programs are giving youths

Mexico sees rise in gangs, vigilantes recruiting children

more options, and that is leading them (gangs) to get desperate, and they are looking to reinforce themselves with kids".

López Obrador said "the key is to attack the root causes, to stop the breakdown of families, to strengthen values and material welfare, to give attention to young people" to avoid them being recruited.

The issue came to a head Wednesday, when a vigilante group in southern Mexico publicly displayed a troop of 19 armed, masked children who had been recruited to act as "community police".

The children appeared to range in age from about 8 to 15, and they carried shotguns and rifles. Some of the very youngest carried sticks instead of guns.

They performed rifle drills on a road in the township of Alcozacán in southern

Guerrero state. In a nearby town, a local drug gang had killed 10 men and burned most of their bodies, and vigilante organizers said the kids were needed to guard their villages against the drug gang.

The head of the Guerrero state human rights office forcefully condemned the vigilantes, saying they were exposing the children to danger.

"We categorically reject the involvement of minors in security roles that put their physical safety, their lives and their development at risk," the office said in a statement.

But the prison and youth advocacy group Reinserta Un Mexicano A.C. said the Guerrero state government's position is irresponsible because authorities there "have been systematically negligent in guaranteeing minimal conditions

of welfare for these communities and in defending the rights of children" in the conflict-torn area.

Drug gang violence has been so bad in Guerrero that thousands of residents have fled remote communities across the state and now live as internally displaced persons.

For example, the vigilantes said many of the children who have been recruited can't continue their education beyond grade school because they are afraid to leave their towns to travel to the nearest middle school.

The vigilantes belong to the Regional Council of Community Authorities, a split-off from a decades-old force known as the CRAC. Since the 1990s, the groups have mostly policed remote indigenous hamlets where regular police seldom venture. □

LOCAL



Windows on Aruba offers exceptional concept:

Windows on Aruba Executive Chef Darwin Torres presents food art



EAGLE BEACH — Darwin Torres, Windows on Aruba's Executive Chef, has long been known as an innovator in the Caribbean culinary world. Torres' specialty is his consistency in quality, his purity of taste, his insistence on freshness, his incredible original sauces and his creative plate presentations that truly turn each dish into an art form. "My Three-Course Tasting Menu is a hit because it offers guests great selections from Windows on Aruba's original a la carte menu for only \$ 49 per person, so guests can sample delicious dishes for a very attractive price," Torres explains. The reviews are not lying, this is a must-try for foodies. "The smaller portions are perfect for everyone to complete three courses and guests love composing their own menu and enjoying a taste of different flavors."

Land to table freshness

The number one essential thing to know about Chef Torres is his insistence on fresh, organic ingredients and pure taste. His inspirational dishes and menus have now expanded to include mouthwatering vegan options. "You can do so much with vegetables. I have local farmers that deliver my specially requested vegetables daily," he explains, "I go for purity of taste." Chef also produces his own picas (hot sauces) which have become so popular among the guests at Divi Resorts, that they are being added to all Divi Resorts restaurants. "I am passionate about the whole concept of land to table," he explains, and it's reflected in his dishes. At Divi Village Golf & Beach Resort they have an in-house program that measures guest satisfaction, and Windows on Aruba gets a consistent five-star recommendation. "I cannot be happier when guests are content, that's how I measure the success of my menus and my hardworking staff," Chef Torres declares with pride.



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The setting at the restaurant takes you to another world. Windows is built to showcase 180 degrees of stunning views, enchanting diners during daylight with beautiful golf greens and the blue waters beyond. At night, the sunsets and lights from the golf course bring an ambiance of full romance mingled with an elegant décor. This combined with delectable food and an ambitious selection of wines, result in an exceptional one-of-a-kind dining experience.

The Chef's Three-Course Menu is ideal for everyone. Families with children, couples, guests with special dietary requirements, vegans and vegetarians. Windows on Aruba truly has a menu for everyone, and you will leave wowed by this restaurant, the extraordinary food and the beauty of each presented course.

Recent TripAdvisor review: "We go to Aruba every year and would never miss their excellent food, ambiance, and service!!! The beautiful windows looking out on incredible scenery as well as the beautiful presentation of every course. Our family of twelve loves every item they order and the service they offer. We give Windows on Aruba 6 stars*****"



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Aboard Jolly Pirates Cruises: Aruba's tourists make a difference with Reef Safe Suntan Lotion and the "Carry Your Cup" pledge

PALM BEACH — You may have heard that your sunscreen might contain chemicals that can damage corals and other marine life. Protect both your skin and Aruba's delicate reefs by using Reef Safe Suntan lotion, complimentary to Jolly Pirates guests aboard their twin Schooners.

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ronment for sea critters. The #carryyourcup challenge is simple. Reduce waste by bringing your own cup or purchase a Jolly Pirate reusable BPA-free option. Jolly Pirates guests are encouraged to join the movement and its tourists have considerably reduced plastic cup waste from Aruba's landfill and limited cups which can inadvertently pollute the Sea. The Jolly Pirates team also encourages its guests to use Reef Safe Suntan lotion, dispensed aboard at no additional cost.

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Super Bowl Sunday at Matthew's beachside restaurant

EAGLE BEACH — Everybody wins watching the Super bowl game at Matthew's beachside restaurant. We welcome you with open arms to Matthew's beachside restaurant, located on the beach at Casa del Mar Beach Resort - Punta Brabo Beach.

During the Super Bowl game on February 2, there will be 3 TV's at the bar and big screens inside of the restaurant showing the final game. Matthew's will offer specials at the bar, dinner specials and bucket deals with giveaways. What about a BBQ Mixed Grill with chorizo, famous ribs and chicken served with cole slaw and sweet

potato fries? Great deals, great prices.

Matthew's beach side restaurant would also like to announce their next coming event on February 14th, Valentine 's Day. It's a popular place so make sure to reserve your table on time.

For more information call their event planner: +297 588 7300

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Full laughter at Aruba Ray Ellin's phenomenal show Top American standup comics give fantastic performance



EAGLE BEACH — The “Aruba Ray’s Comedy” show features some of the funniest American standup comedians in a terrific 90-minute show, and Aruba Today was there and had a blast. The show is now on at the Holiday Inn Resort Aruba from January 9th until February 13th. It all begins and ends with host Ray Ellin. You will be amazed with his quick wit, sharp tongue and hilarious observations of the public, memorizing every targeted person in the audience throughout the whole show. Three top comedians took care of a full laughter show where you forget all your worries and walk out with a happy smile.

Celebrating six years of Excellence in Aruba, Aruba Ray’s Comedy is the number one rated Night Time Activity on TripAdvisor, the number one rated Show on TripAdvisor, and the number one rated Fun Activity on TripAdvisor. The show was named as one of USA Today’s “10 Best”. This is the same caliber show you would find at the top comedy clubs in NYC. The line-up is truly some of the best and hottest comedians from the United States. This wonderful show is the best way to spend a night out “off-the-town”; so to speak.

Line-up during our visit was Dan Naturman, finalist on America’s Got Talent, Tony V from CBS’ “The Late Show”, Christine Hurley from “Last Comic Standing” and all three were simply the greatest in their own identical style. The setting is great in which you are seated close to the stage thus being able to see the mimics of the comedian, in the case of Hurley a must because she makes the funniest faces. The dry humor of Naturman, the rude jokes of Hurley and the ‘let’s have a chat’ way of Tony V all rocked. Ellin is a great host, welcoming the audience personally at the entrance and waving them out after the show. We felt truly relaxed and happy after two hours of gut-busting laughter and forgetting everything else.

This month the comedians that climb the stage will be Jim Colliton, Jimmy Dunn, Ophira Eisenberg, Lenny Clarke and Tony V.

Ray Ellin is considered by his peers to be the best host in NYC, Ray is also known as “Aruba Ray” because of his passion for Aruba. Ray has been coming to Aruba every month for the past seven years, where he produces and hosts these incredible comedy shows. Already popular in New York, the comedian has brought his talent and some of his colleagues to Aruba.

Catch the show nightly at 8:30pm until February 13th in Holiday Inn Resort Aruba. Doors open at 8pm. Check out Aruba Today newspaper to keep track of the schedule. You may also find updates at www.ArubaComedy.com.

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<p>Wednesday at 8:00pm</p> <p>Noche Latina</p>	<p>Sunday at 8:00pm</p> <p>Aruba Has Talent</p>
<p>Thursday at 8:00pm</p> <p>Circus Night</p>	<p>Every night at 7:30pm 8:30pm 9:30pm</p> <p>Liquid Firework Show</p>

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Instant payments now made available in Aruba

ORANJESTAD — After a successful go-live last weekend, in close cooperation with the commercial banks, the Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) in its function as the clearing house, announces that a new instant payments rail is now available in Aruba. This new rail is called I-Pago, the trademark for the domestic instant payment services provided. I-Pago is an important step forward in the innovation of the payment infrastructure of Aruba. Payments can now be done as fast and easy as with cash, significantly lowering transaction times, reducing uncertainty of payments, and, thereby, enhancing transparency.

The background

In 2016 the CBA invited different stakeholders to hear their views on Aruba's payment infrastructure. Almost all stakeholders expressed their wish to see improvements in the payment infrastructure and would welcome modernization and automation efforts, as well as a reduction in the use of traditional means of payment. Furthermore, the CBA included in its strategic plan 'Bela Yen – Nos Plan Strategico 2016 – 2020' its plans to broaden the CBA's task in the payment landscape in order to contribute towards modernizing the payment system. I-Pago is now the first step towards the latter.

The implementation of I-Pago entailed replacing the previous clearing and settlement system (Onnet) for a new instant payments clearing and settlement solution. Aruban florin transactions between banks are now processed instantly, 24 hours a day, 7 days a

week, 365 days a year. With the introduction of I-Pago, the Aruban payment infrastructure is raised to a level in line with the prevailing international best practices, enhancing its efficiency, reliability, and security.

Features of I-Pago

I-Pago instant payments are characterized by the following features:

- Instant Aruban florin transfers between accounts at different banks
- 24/7/365 availability and multi-channel initiation
- Clearing and settlements within seconds
- Payment is final, with immediate confirmation to payer and payee
- Immediate access to funds

Having these features available, I-Pago lays a solid foundation to accommodate new developments in the payments industry, and allows participants to further innovate and provide new payment solutions to the Aruban community.

I-Pago participating banks are:

- Aruba Bank N.V.
- Banco di Caribe (Aruba) N.V.
- RBC Royal Bank (Aruba) N.V.
- First Caribbean International Bank (Cayman) Limited – Aruba Branch
- Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.

Coming February, more information on I-Pago will be available on CBA's website: www.cbaruba.org/lpago

About the Centrale Bank van Aruba

The main purpose of the Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) is to contribute to the financial stability and economic well-being of the

Aruban community. The CBA accomplishes this mission by implementing an effective monetary policy aimed towards maintaining the value of the florin, by promoting the soundness and integrity of the financial system, and by providing an efficient and

reliable payments system.

Besides these core tasks, the CBA is also the sole issuer of florin banknotes and florin coins, and acts as banker to the Government of Aruba. In addition, it regulates the flow of international payments, manages

the available foreign exchange reserves of Aruba, and supervises the spending thereof.

For more information on the Centrale Bank van Aruba, please visit the website www.cbaruba.org

Instant payments now made available in Aruba



Oranjestad, January 27, 2020 – After a successful go-live on January 18, 2020, in close cooperation with the commercial banks, the Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) in its function as the clearing house, announces that a new instant payments rail is now available in Aruba. This new rail is called I-Pago, the trademark for the domestic instant payment services provided. I-Pago is an important step forward in the innovation of the payment infrastructure of Aruba. Payments can now be done as fast and easy as with cash, significantly lowering transaction times, reducing uncertainty of payments, and, thereby, enhancing transparency.

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The tariff

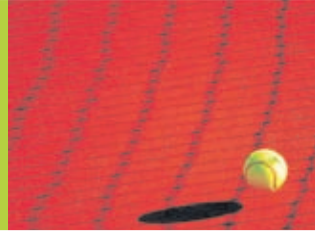
Based upon its investments and transaction volume estimates, the CBA is currently charging the participating commercial banks a new fee for interbank transactions according to the following pricing structure: All transactions below Afl. 250 are free of charge, while a fee of Afl. 0.70 will be charged on all transactions above Afl. 250. With this fee structure the CBA wants to stimulate the use of I-Pago.

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- Banco di Caribe (Aruba) N.V.
- Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.
- FirstCaribbean International Bank (Cayman) Limited – Aruba Branch
- RBC Royal Bank (Aruba) N.V.



SPORTS



Sofia Kenin of the U.S. reacts after winning a point against compatriot Coco Gauff during their fourth round singles match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020.

Associated Press

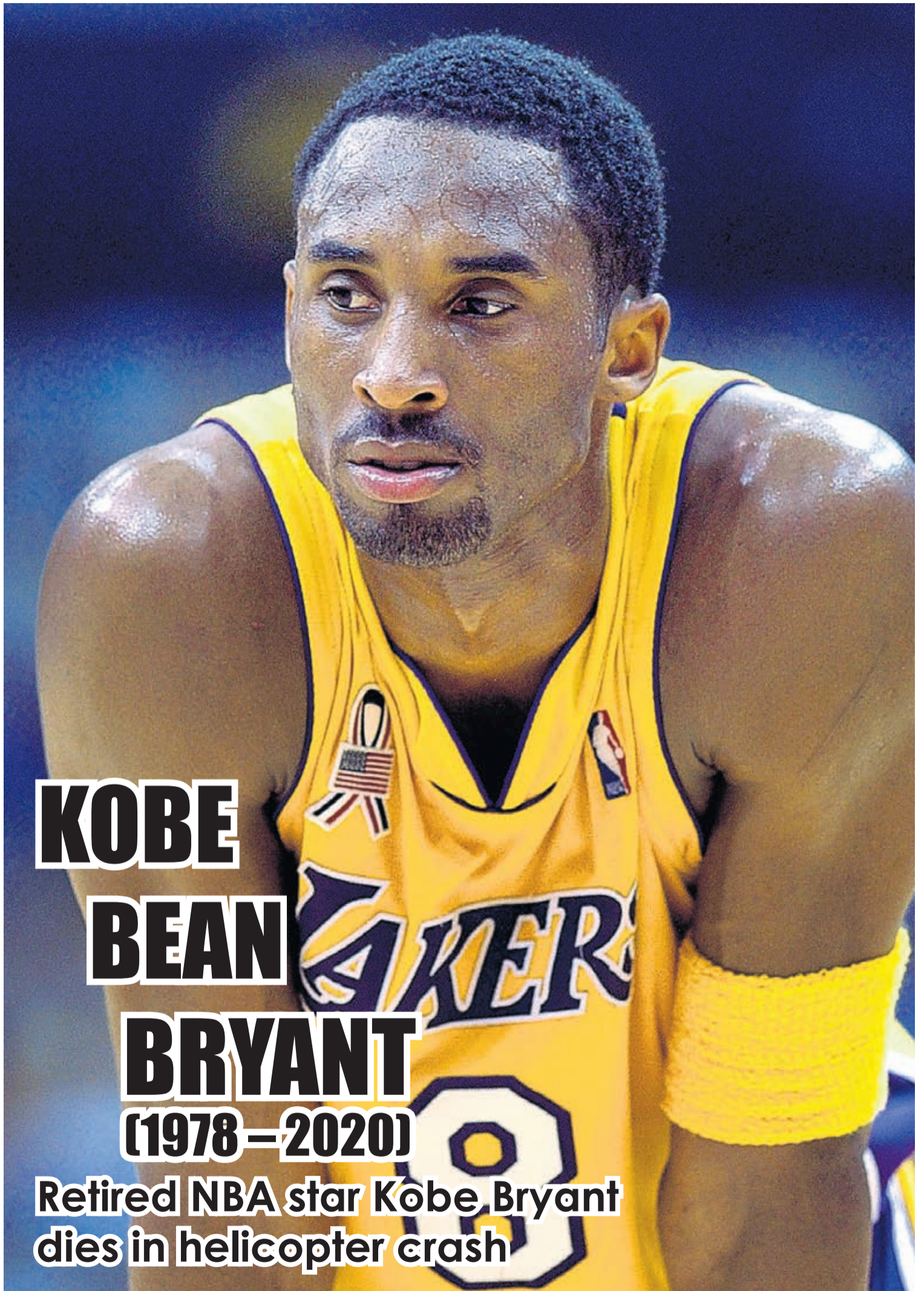
'Didn't do it for the hype': Kenin stops Coco in Australia

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — It made sense to Sofia Kenin that Coco Gauff would be the one getting all of the attention and generating all of the buzz. That's only natural when Gauff is 15 and making tennis history time and time again.

"Yeah, I mean, the hype is for her. She's obviously done great stuff, of course. It's absolutely normal. Just (tried) not to let that get in my head," Kenin said. "Of course, I didn't do it for the hype. I did it for myself, because I wanted to prove to myself that I could do it."

Well, Sofia, you did it. Now get ready for the spotlight to shine your way. Kenin stopped Gauff's latest Grand Slam run by beating her 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-0 in the Australian Open's fourth round on Sunday.

Continued on Page 20



KOBE BEAN BRYANT (1978-2020)

Retired NBA star Kobe Bryant dies in helicopter crash

In this April 21, 2002 file photo Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant waits between plays during the opener of their best-of-five first-round Western Conference playoff series against the Portland Trail Blazers in Los Angeles.

Associated Press
Page 21

Leishman rallies to win Farmers Insurance Open at Torrey

By DOUG FERGUSON

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Marc Leishman couldn't miss whether it was for birdie for par, racing from four shots behind with a 7-under 65 and winning the Farmers Insurance Open when Jon Rahm couldn't match his eagle putt from three years ago.

Leishman ran off five birdies on the front nine to seize control Sunday over a fast-faltering Rahm and Rory McIlroy. He kept a cushion with three big par saves down the tough stretch at Torrey Pines and closed with a 6-foot birdie putt that turned out to be the winner.

Rahm was 4 over through five holes, the biggest mess coming at the par-3 third when he went left into the canyon and took three shots to reach the green for a double bogey. Each time he appeared to be done, the fiery Spaniard charged back.

He made eagle on the par-5 13th and birdie on the next hole. After a bogey on the 15th to fall four shots behind, Rahm stuffed his next two shots for birdies. He needed an eagle on the par-5 18th to force a playoff, and his attempt from just outside 50 feet died off to the left. Rahm closed with a 70.

Rahm won his first PGA Tour title three years ago at Torrey Pines when he closed with a 65, making a 60-foot eagle putt on the last hole that secured the victory. This time, it was Leishman's turn.

He matched Rahm's 65 as the lowest closing round by a winner at Torrey Pines since the South Course was beefed up ahead of the 2008 U.S. Open.

Leishman was the second Australian to win on Australian Day, following Lucas Herbert's playoff victory in Dubai on the European Tour earlier Sunday.

McIlroy, needing a victory to return to No. 1 in the world, started three shots behind in the final group and opened with two

straight bogeys. He missed a short birdie attempt on the third, and then pulled his tee shot into the hazard and had to scramble for bogey.

Much like Rahm, he stayed in the mix by playing his last five holes on the front nine in 5 under. McIlroy couldn't make up enough ground, shot 69 and tied for third with Brandt Snedeker (68).

Tiger Woods, trying to set the PGA Tour record with his 83rd career victory, never got anything going. Woods had to settle for a 70 and tied for ninth, six shots behind.

Woods and Kobe Bryant began their pro careers the same year. Only after the round did Woods learn Bry-

ant had died in a helicopter crash about 30 minutes north of Los Angeles.

"I didn't understand why they were yelling, 'Do it for Mamba' on the back nine," said Woods, who called it "one of the most shocking, tragic days I've ever been part of."

Leishman finished at 15-under 273 to capture his fifth PGA Tour title.

Ryan Palmer, who started one shot out of the lead, closed with a 77.

The final group of Rahm, McIlroy and Palmer were collectively 9 over through four holes. Leishman was going the other direction and getting there in a hurry. Once he had the lead, no one caught him.



Marc Leishman, of Australia, smiles after putting on the fourth hole of the South Course at Torrey Pines Golf Course during the final round of the Farmers Insurance golf tournament Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020, in San Diego.

Associated Press

Leishman was helped by didn't drop a shot until the par-saving putts from 20 17th hole, and followed feet on No. 12 and 12 feet that with a birdie that ultimately gave him the victory. □

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Located at Riu Antillas as formerly The Westin Resort.

Continued from Page 18

Like Gauff, Kenin is a young — although, at 21, not quite as young — American and she reached her first major quarterfinal with the victory.

"I want to show who I am, show my best tennis, show why I'm there, why I belong," the 14th-seeded Kenin said. "I'm doing that." In her previous match, the 67th-ranked Gauff beat Naomi Osaka to become the youngest player in the professional era to defeat the reigning women's champion at the Australian Open. At Wimbledon last year, Gauff became the youngest qualifier ever at that tournament, beat Venus Williams in the first round and made it all the way to the fourth.

Entering Sunday, Gauff was 8-2 in Grand Slam action, with her only losses to women who have been

ranked No. 1 and own multiple major titles: Halep (at Wimbledon) and Osaka (at the U.S. Open).

Hence the aforementioned hype.

"I couldn't really write this," Gauff said. "I don't think anybody could really write how this past (several) months have gone."

She did not play as well as she has been this time, though, winding up with 48 unforced errors, more than twice as many as Kenin's 22.

Gauff's power is impressive. One tiny indication: She slammed a forehand into the net so hard that it dislodged a piece of a sponsor's white plastic sign.

Kenin can't copy that.

But thanks to her relentless ball-tracking and a bit of in-your-face attitude with a racket in hand, Kenin surged up the WTA rankings from 52nd to 12th in 2019



Switzerland's Roger Federer makes a forehand return to Hungary's Marton Fucsovics during their fourth round singles match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020.

Associated Press

while winning her first three tour-level singles titles plus a couple in doubles.

"She definitely put a lot of balls in the court," Gauff

said. "She's quick."

Just before Gauff announced herself last season, Kenin delivered her own breakthrough at the French Open by upsetting Serena Williams to get to the round of 16 at a major for the first time.

Now Kenin has taken another step.

Wasn't easy, though.

After double-faulting twice in the tiebreaker to drop the opening set — "For sure, nerves," Kenin acknowledged — she immediately tilted things the other way, breaking in the initial game of the second and never letting that lead slip away. When it ended, appropriately enough, on a missed backhand by Gauff, Kenin dropped her racket at the baseline and covered her face as tears welled in her eyes.

"Anyone would get pretty emotional for the first time," said Kenin, who next faces another woman making her Slam quarterfinal debut, 78th-ranked Ons Jabeur of Tunisia.

Jabeur was a 7-6 (4), 6-1 winner against 27th-seeded Wang Qiang, who surprised Serena Williams in the third round.

The wins for Kenin and Jabeur ended at about the same time, and the future opponents soon found each other cooling down side-by-side on exercise bicycles.

Kenin laughed as she described the scene this way: "She's like, 'Good job.' I'm like, 'You, too.' It was fun, a

funny moment. She's like, 'Are you feeling tired?' 'No, I'm good.' She's like, 'Yeah, me, too.' I'm like, 'OK. I'll see you on Tuesday, then.'"

Also advancing to a quarterfinal showdown were No. 1 Ash Barty — trying to become the first Australian to win the nation's Grand Slam tournament since the 1970s — and last year's runner-up in Melbourne, Petra Kvitova.

Reigning French Open champion Barty moved on with a 6-3, 1-6, 6-4 win against No. 18 Alison Riske of the United States, who double-faulted on the last point.

Kvitova, a two-time Wimbledon champion, was down a set and a break before coming back to defeat No. 22 Maria Sakkari 6-7 (4), 6-3, 6-2. "I love Petra," said Barty, who lost to Kvitova in Australia a year ago, "but let's hope she doesn't break my heart." In the men's fourth round, defending champion Novak Djokovic moved into a matchup against No. 32 Milos Raonic, and Roger Federer overcame a slow start to beat Marton Fucsovics 4-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2 and his 15th quarterfinal in Australia, where he will face 100th-ranked Tennyis Sandgren of the United States. Raonic, the 2016 Wimbledon runner-up, was asked whether he thinks Djokovic, who owns 16 Grand Slam titles, eventually will catch Federer, who has 20.

"I just hope," Raonic replied, "I can stop him at this one." □

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Kobe Bryant, Lakers great and basketball icon, dies in crash

By GREG BEACHAM

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kobe Bryant, the 18-time NBA All-Star who won five championships and became one of the greatest basketball players of his generation during a 20-year career with the Los Angeles Lakers, died in a helicopter crash Sunday. He was 41.

Bryant died in the foggy hills above Calabasas, California, about 30 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press. A different person familiar with the case confirmed Bryant's 13-year-old daughter Gianna also was killed. Authorities said nine people were on the helicopter and that all were presumed dead. No names were released.

Both of the AP's unnamed sources spoke on condition of anonymity because few details of the crash had been released publicly. The crash happened around 10 a.m.

Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Allen Kenitzer said the helicopter was a Sikorsky S-76, and it was not known what caused the crash.

Bryant lived south of Los Angeles in coastal Orange County for much of his adult life, and he often used helicopters to save time and avoid Southern California's notorious traffic. He often traveled to practices and games by helicopter before his playing career ended in 2016, and he kept up the practice after retirement as he attended to his business ventures. The crash occurred about 20 miles from Mamba Sports Academy, Bryant's basketball training complex in Thousand Oaks, California. Bryant, who had four daughters with his wife, Vanessa, dedicated himself to boosting women's sports in recent years, coaching and mentoring basketball players. Gianna, better known as Gigi, was a talented basketball player. Bryant retired nearly four years ago as the third-leading scorer in NBA history, finishing two decades



In this April 13, 2016 file photo Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant acknowledges fans after the last NBA basketball game of his career against the Utah Jazz in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

with the Lakers as a prolific shooter with a sublime all-around game and a relentless competitive ethic. He held that spot in the league scoring ranks until Saturday night, when the Lakers' LeBron James passed him during a game in Philadelphia, Bryant's hometown.

"Continuing to move the game forward (at)King-James," Bryant wrote in his last tweet. "Much respect my brother."

On Saturday night, James said he was "happy just to be in any conversation with Kobe Bean Bryant, one of the all-time greatest basketball players to ever play. One of the all-time greatest Lakers."

News of Bryant's death inspired an outpouring of grief around the sports world and beyond, but it was felt particularly painfully in Los Angeles, where Bryant was unquestionably the most popular athlete and one of the city's most beloved public figures.

The Lakers' next game isn't until Tuesday night against the crosstown rival Clippers, but hundreds of fans — many in Bryant jerseys and Lakers gear — spontaneously gathered at Staples Center and in the surrounding LA Live entertainment complex on Sunday, weeping and staring at video boards with Bryant's image before the Grammy awards ceremony.

"I thought he was going to live forever," Lakers great

Magic Johnson told KCBS-TV. "I thought he was invincible. ... There was nobody who took more pride in putting on that Laker uniform than Kobe. Nobody. He was just special. We will miss him and we'll remember him for his greatness, but let's not forget how he impacted the world, too." The NBA kept its games on as scheduled when the news broke, but the San Antonio Spurs and Toronto Raptors both took voluntary 24-second shot clock violations at the start of their game in honor of Bryant, who wore No. 24 for the second half of his career.

Bryant opened a production company and entered the entertainment field in retirement. He won an Academy Award in 2018 for his contributions to "Dear Basketball," an animated short about his relationship to the game. He also produced content for ESPN.

In 2003, Bryant was charged with attacking a 19-year-old employee at a Colorado resort. He had said the two had consensual sex, and the charge was eventually dropped. The woman later filed a civil suit against Bryant that was settled out of court. Bryant's adulation remained strong in Los Angeles even during the sexual assault allegations.

Bryant had one of the greatest careers in recent NBA history and became

one of the game's most popular players as the face of the 16-time NBA champion Lakers franchise. He was the league MVP in 2008 and a two-time NBA scoring champion. He earned 12 selections to the NBA's All-Defensive teams.

He teamed with Shaquille O'Neal in a combustible partnership to lead the Lakers to NBA titles in 2000, 2001 and 2002. He later teamed with Pau Gasol to win two more titles in 2009 and 2010.

"There's no words to express the pain I'm going through with this tragedy of losing my niece Gigi & my brother (at)KobeBryant," O'Neal wrote on Twitter. "I'm sick right now."

A two-time Olympic gold medalist with the dominant U.S. team, Bryant retired in 2016 after scoring 60 points in his final NBA game. In December 2017, the Lakers hung banners retiring his No. 8 and No. 24 jerseys in the Staples Center rafters in an unprecedented double honor.

Bryant looms large over the current generation of NBA players, most of whom grew up either idolizing Bryant or absorbing his work ethic and competitive spirit in the same way Bryant's generation learned from Michael Jordan. After James passed Bryant on Saturday, he remembered listening to Bryant when the superstar came to speak at a childhood basketball

camp.

"I remember one thing he said: If you want to be great at it, or want to be one of the greats, you've got to put the work in," James said.

James later teamed up with Bryant on the 2008 U.S. Olympic team in Beijing.

"He had zero flaws offensively," James said. "Zero. You backed off of him, he could shoot the 3. You body him up a little bit, he could go around you. He could shoot from mid-range. He could post. He could make free throws. ... He was just immortal offensively because of his skill set and his work ethic."

Bryant was a basketball superstar for his entire adult life. He entered the NBA draft straight out of high school in 1996 after a childhood spent partly in Italy, where his father, former NBA player Joe "Jellybean" Bryant, played professionally. He spoke four languages, and was a huge part of the NBA's international growth, traveling the world, connecting with athletes in other sports and celebrities.

The Lakers acquired the 17-year-old Bryant in a trade shortly after Charlotte drafted him, and he immediately became one of the most exciting and intriguing players in the sport alongside O'Neal, who had signed with the Lakers as a free agent. Bryant won the Slam Dunk Contest as a rookie, and the Lakers gradually grew into a team that won three consecutive championships.

Bryant and Spanish star Pau Gasol formed the nucleus of another championship team in 2008, reaching three straight NBA Finals and winning two more titles.

Between those title runs and before the quiet final years of his career, Bryant accomplished innumerable feats including an 81-point game against Toronto in January 2006. Bryant's final NBA seasons were dogged by injuries, but he still went into retirement with that jaw-dropping 60-point performance against Utah. □

Pro Bowlers remember Kobe Bryant as AFC tops NFC again

By **MARK LONG**

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Green Bay linebacker Za'Darius Smith hastily organized an homage to Kobe Bryant minutes before the Pro Bowl.

Smith and his NFC teammates learned about Bryant's death while they were in the locker room getting ready for the NFL's all-star game Sunday. Smith suggested the best way to pay tribute the late NBA great was to mimic his fadeaway jumper after big plays.

So they did — repeatedly. It was one of several ways NFL players remembered Bryant during the celebratory event, which the AFC won 38-33 for its fourth consecutive victory in Orlando. "I don't even want to talk about it anymore," Smith said in the locker room hours later. "I don't want to get emotional."

Detroit cornerback Darius Slay didn't duck his feelings. Slay grew up idolizing Bryant so much that he had a custom Lakers hoodie made to warm up in before NFL games. Slay also got to meet Bryant a few years back.

"It's heart-wrecking," Slay said with tears in his eyes. "There's not any words you can say. I'm in shock. I just imagine him growing old, being part-owner of the Lakers and having a future son I could cheer for next. It's just shocking. Me saying the words 'Kobe's gone,' that's just crazy."

Bryant died in a helicopter crash early Sunday near Calabasas, California, and the news spread shortly before the game. It put a damper on the NFL game held on the other side of the country.

Players checked cell-phones on the sidelines for updates, all of them looking for information and answers.



AFC defensive end Calais Campbell, of the Jacksonville Jaguars, (93) and quarterback Lamar Jackson, of the Baltimore Ravens, (8) hold the Pro Bowl trophy after the NFL Pro Bowl football game, Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020, in Orlando, Fla. The AFC defeated the NFC 38-33. Campbell won the MVP defensive player of the game, while Jackson won the MVP offensive player of the game.
Associated Press

"It shocked the whole locker room," Philadelphia defensive tackle Fletcher Cox said. "Nobody thought it was true, but it was. It's a sad day for sports."

Smith, Slay and Tampa Bay's Shaq Barrett got together following a second-quarter sack and delivered their first "Kobe J." Even more NFC teammates performed the routine following a fumble in the third.

Green Bay receiver Davonte Adams pointed to the sky and flashed the No. 24

on his fingers as an ode to Bryant's jersey after a touchdown catch in the third.

Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson led a prayer for Bryant and his family before the game.

The NFL also held a moment of silence for Bryant at the 2-minute warning in the first half, showing the retired NBA star's picture on the scoreboards while announcing his death at age 41.

Several guys removed their

helmets during the break. Others took a knee and prayed. Fans broke the silence by chanting "Ko-be! Ko-be!"

"I felt hurt," Chicago safety Eddie Jackson said. "It's sad. I don't know how it feels to lose a husband and a child, so I don't understand what the family's going through. It's got to be tough."

Aside from the Bryant tributes, the NFL's annual all-star game went as expected. There were big plays everywhere and few tackles anywhere. The teams combined for 834 yards and 10 touchdowns.

The play of the day was Pittsburgh linebacker T.J. Watt's 82-yard fumble return in the fourth. Jacksonville's Calais Campbell beat Dallas' Travis Frederick and sacked Kirk Cousins on a fourth-

and-goal play from the 9. Campbell stripped the ball, which Watt scooped up and went untouched the other way to put the AFC ahead 38-27.

The NFC had a chance to rally late and tried to take advantage of a new rule that allows the scoring team to retain possession by facing a fourth-and-15 play from its own 25-yard line. Cousins threw a deep ball that Baltimore safety Earl Thomas intercepted.

Campbell was named the AFC's defensive player of the game. Baltimore's Lamar Jackson was the offensive MVP.

The winners earned \$70,000 each. The losers got \$35,000 apiece.

Jackson threw for 185 yards and two touchdowns. He also threw an interception. Houston's Deshaun Watson threw for 148 yards, with a touchdown and a pick.

Tennessee's Ryan Tannehill hooked up with Jacksonville's DJ Chark for a 60-yard score in which officials opted not to rule him down after two defenders touched him.

Wilson gave his NFC starting spot to New Orleans quarterback Drew Brees, who is contemplating retirement. Brees said this week he will take some time before deciding on his future.

Cousins, Brees and Wilson threw TD passes for the NFC, which also allowed Ezekiel Elliott and Adams to attempt throws. Elliott's was picked off. Adams added two TD receptions.

The NFC's top highlight was Cox rumbling 61 yards for a score. Minnesota's Harrison Smith intercepted a pass from Watson at the 3-yard line and returned it to the 39 before lateraling to Cox, who took it the rest of the while.

No one tried to tackle the 310-pound Cox. Denver receiver Courtland Sutton slapped at the ball for the final 20 yards.

"I'm glad nobody did try to stop me," Cox said. "It was fun. I was looking for somebody to pitch the ball to, though. Guarantee I was. Get this thing out of my hands." □

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Garcia earns 12-round decision, overcomes bite by Redkach

By DENIS P. GORMAN

NEW YORK (AP) — Danny Garcia needed to learn about himself. Nine months between fights can create some questions.

After 12 rounds Saturday night, he proved to everyone he's the same as he ever was.

Garcia overcame a bite on his left shoulder and earned a 12-round unanimous decision over a frustrated Ivan Redkach.

"He bit me," Garcia said. "He said 'Mike Tyson' when he bit me. I said, 'Ref, he bit me.' I thought I needed stitches or something.

"That's my first time ever getting bit in a fight."

Judges Glenn Feldman and Don Trella scored the fight 117-111, and judge Anthony Paolillo scored it 118-110.

Garcia improved to 36-2 with his second straight win. He last fought on April 20, 2019, when he knocked out Adrian Grandos.

"I thought the referee (Benjy Esteves) was (going to) stop it because I felt like I was punishing him," Garcia said. "He's a tough guy, he hung in there. I wanted to get the (knockout), but I didn't get it. I feel like I boxed smart, and I feel like that's what I needed after this layoff. I really wanted the knockout bad, but I'll accept this."

Garcia started quickly as he moved Redkach (23-5-1) around the ring and waited for openings in the first three rounds at Barclays Center. When they presented themselves, he landed jabs. Garcia's work in the early rounds began

to show in the fourth as he connected with heavy punches.

Garcia's pressure and power forced Redkach into fighting a defensive style. Redkach spent much of the fight backing up or against the ropes and Garcia took full advantage. He opened a cut over Redkach's right eye with a hook in the seventh, then staggered the Ukrainian with a shot in the eighth.

"I'm going to get back in the gym and get stronger and better," Redkach said. "I'm thankful for the experience against Danny Garcia. I'm going to be back and be much better."

Having been methodically picked apart, Redkach was reduced to biting Garcia on his shoulder during a clinch in the eighth.

The Garcia-Redkach fight was the main event and billed as a WBC Silver World Welterweight Title Eliminator. In its aftermath the question which assuredly will be asked of Garcia is: Who's next?

Manny Pacquiao, Errol Spence Jr., Terence Crawford, and Shawn Porter were mentioned to Garcia during a press conference Thursday. And for his part, Garcia said he was open to fights against any of the four, specifically mentioning Pacquiao and Spence, whose car wreck on Oct. 10 in Dallas in which he crashed his Ferrari and was subsequently charged with a DWI postponed a potential bout against the Philadelphia native.

"Manny's been saying he wants to fight me for the



Danny Garcia punches Ukraine's Ivan Redkach during the second round of a welterweight boxing match Saturday, Jan. 25, 2020, in New York. Fulton won the fight. Hurd won the fight.

Associated Press

last two years. It hasn't happened," Garcia said during Thursday's press conference. "Manny Pacquiao, Errol Spence or anybody who wants to fight me, I'm here. Let's get it on."

He didn't back away from those words after the fight.

"Either (Spence or Pacquiao)," Garcia said. "Either of those fights I would like to have. My style looks great with both fighters."

Garcia was not the only fighter who had something to gain with a win on a card that, in essence, would allow promoters to make fights for the remainder of the year. But what was supposed to be a showcase for the boxers ended up being a study in risk management, starting with a unanimous decision by Jarrett Hurd over Francisco Santana (25-9-1) in

the semi-main event.

Outside of the fifth round, in which both fighters exchanged heavy punches, and the 10th when Hurd dropped Santana to the canvas with an uppercut, the fight was a plodding affair to the dismay of the 8,217 in attendance.

"We came out here and did what we wanted to do. The crowd didn't love it, but you've got to understand, I got the unanimous decision and I did what I wanted to do," Hurd said. "There was definitely no frustration. We didn't want to go toe to toe and we didn't want to make this a risky fight."

Stephen Fulton Jr. (18-0) became the WBO Intercontinental Junior Featherweight Champion by defeating Arnold Khegai (16-1-1) by unanimous decision in the main card opener.

The fight was a display of divergent styles as Fulton used movement to create openings to allow him to land jabs from all angles, while Khegai's plan was to work inside, including implementing the repeated use of clinches.

"I knew he was a rough-and-tumble customer, so I just had to keep my composure," Fulton said. "That's what I do. I use my jab. I tried to utilize the jab all night and win the fight behind the jab."

Lorenzo Simpson (7-0) earned a unanimous decision over Antonio Hernandez (2-11-1), and Kees-hawn Williams (7-0-1) did the same against Gaku Takahashi (16-11-1). Steven Torres improved to 2-0 with a TKO of Dakota Witkopf 1:28 into the second round in undercard fights. □

Shiffrin wins super-G, 2 days after downhill triumph

BANSKO, Bulgaria (AP) — Following three weeks without a win in her favorite technical events, Mikaela Shiffrin bounced back with two triumphs in speed races in three days.

The three-time overall champion from the United States won a women's World Cup super-G Sunday, two days after she won a downhill on the same hill. It marked the first time in

Shiffrin's career that she won two speed events in the same weekend.

Shiffrin used her outstanding giant slalom skills to navigate the many sharp turns on the Marc Girardelli course and beat another technical specialist, Italy's Marta Bassino, by 0.29 seconds.

Shiffrin was about three tenths ahead of Bassino's time from the first split and

the margin hardly changed throughout her run.

"I took a little bit of risk," Shiffrin said. "I had a really crazy run. I was going really aggressive. It's the perfect surface, it's perfect conditions, and I really like the course, obviously."

It was Shiffrin's first win in the discipline since clinching the super-G world title in February, and she went top of the season standings.

Former overall champion Lara Gut-Behrami of Switzerland was 0.70 behind in third for her first podium result of the season.

One of Shiffrin's main rivals for the overall title, Federica Brignone, was leading by 0.08 at the final split time but the Italian lost her balance as she hooked a gate and slid off the course.

"Fede is skiing so well," Shiffrin said about Brignone.

"I saw Marta's run and I thought, 'that looks really good and fast.' And I expected Fede would be just going hard again, too. I know that she's so hungry and motivated and she's skiing amazing right now. It was lucky for me, unlucky for her." The women's World Cup travels to the 2014 Olympic venue in Rosa Khutor for a downhill and super-G next weekend. □

The big lesson from the Bezos hack: Anyone can be a target

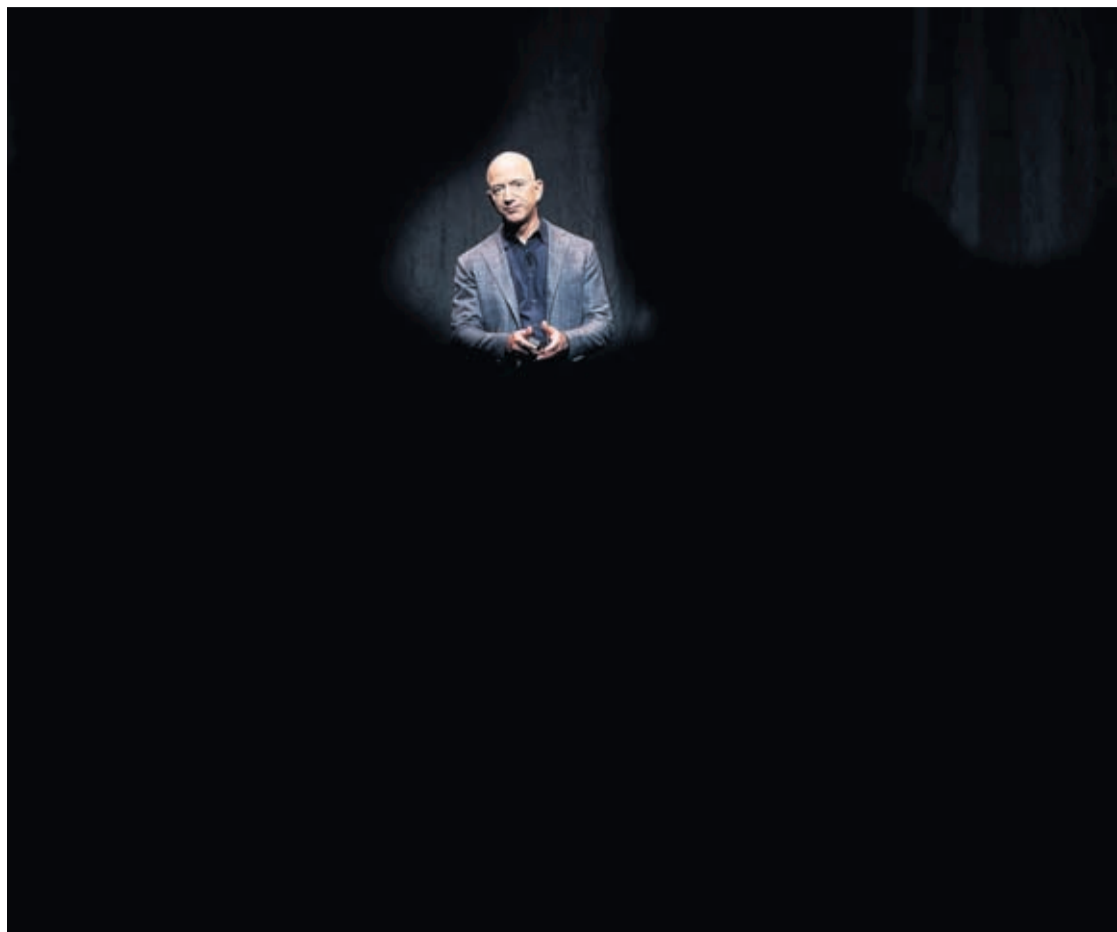
By **MATT O'BRIEN**
AP Technology Reporter
PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) —

You may not think you're in the same league as Jeff Bezos when it comes to being a hacking target. Probably not, but you — and just about anyone else, potentially including senior U.S. government figures — could still be vulnerable to an attack similar to one the Amazon founder and Washington Post owner apparently experienced.

Two U.N. experts this week called for the U.S. to investigate a likely hack of Bezos' phone that could have involved Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. A commissioned forensic report found with "medium to high confidence" that Bezos' iPhone X was compromised by a video MP4 file he received from the prince in May 2018.

Bezos later went public about the hack after the National Enquirer tabloid threatened to publish Bezos' private photos if he didn't call off a private investigation into the hacking of his phone. It's not clear if those two events are related. The Saudis have denied any involvement in the purported hack.

The events could potentially affect U.S.-Saudi relations. On Friday, Sen. Ron Wyden, an Oregon Democrat, said he is asking the National Security Agency to look into the security of



In this May 9, 2019, file photo Jeff Bezos speaks at an event before unveiling Blue Origin's Blue Moon lunar lander in Washington.

White House officials who may have messaged the crown prince, particularly on personal devices. Jared Kushner, a White House aide and President Donald Trump's son-in-law, is known to have done so using WhatsApp.

Wyden called reports of the Bezos hack "extraordinarily ominous" and said they may have "startling repercussions for national security."

But they could resonate at the personal level as well. As the cost of hacking falls while opportunities to dig

into peoples' online lives multiply, more and more people are likely to end up as targets, even if they're not the richest individuals in the world.

Ultimately, that boils down to a simple lesson: Be careful who you talk to — and what you're using to chat with them.

"People need to get out of the mindset that nobody would hack them," said Katie Moussouris, founder and CEO of Luta Security. "You don't have to be a specific target or a big fish to find yourself at the mercy of an

opportunistic attacker."

WhatsApp, owned by Facebook, is generally considered a secure way of trading private online messages due to the fact that it scrambles messages and calls with encryption so that only senders and recipients can understand them. What many people may not have realized is that it, like almost any messaging service, can act as a conduit for malware.

That encryption, however, is no help if a trusted contact finds a way to use that connection to break into the phone's operating system. In fact, an infected attachment can't be detected by security software while it's encrypted, and apps like WhatsApp don't scan for malware even once files are decrypted. WhatsApp users can disable the automatic downloading of photos, videos and other media, which happens by default unless the user takes action.

Other messaging apps are likely also vulnerable. "It just so happens that this one was a vulnerability in WhatsApp," said JT Keating, of Texas-based security firm Zimperium. "It could have

been in any one of any number of apps."

Prince Mohammed exchanged numbers with Bezos during a U.S. trip in spring 2018. On the same visit, the prince also met with other tech executives, including the CEOs of Google, Apple and Palantir, as well as sports and entertainment celebrities and academic leaders. Virgin Group founder Richard Branson gave the Saudi delegation a tour of the Mojave Air and Space Port in the desert north of Los Angeles.

Google and Apple didn't respond to emailed requests for comment this week on whether their executives shared personal contacts after that trip. Palantir Technologies confirmed that its CEO Alex Karp met with the prince but said they never shared personal messages. Virgin Group said it was looking into it.

UC Berkeley cybersecurity researcher Bill Marczak cautioned that there's still no conclusive evidence that the Saudi video was malicious, adding that it might be premature to jump to broader conclusions about it. Many other security experts have also questioned the forensics report upon which U.N. officials are basing their conclusions.

But Marczak said it is generally good advice to "always be on the lookout for suspicious links or messages that sound too good to be true."

Even caution about avoiding suspicious links might not be good enough to ward off spyware — especially for high-profile targets like dissidents, journalists and wealthy executives. Hackers-for-hire last year took advantage of a WhatsApp bug to remotely hijack dozens of phones and take control of their cameras and microphones without the user having to click anything to let them in. In such cases, said Marczak, "there doesn't need to be any interaction on the part of the person being targeted." □

Associated Press

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Why that green fund you bought might include a coal miner

By STAN CHOE

NEW YORK (AP) — Environmentally conscious investing received a lot of attention last week after the world's largest asset manager said it plans to put climate change and sustainability at the center of its investment approach.

The decision by BlackRock Inc. should create more investment opportunities for those interested in funds that take environmental, social and governance issues into account — known as ESG funds — before they buy a stock or bond. Billions of dollars are already flowing into such funds — \$20.6 billion last year, up from nearly \$5.5 billion in 2018.

Green investing isn't as simple as it sounds, however. Just because BlackRock or any other fund manager slaps an ESG or sustainable label on a fund doesn't necessarily mean it completely syncs with an investor's priorities.

"I don't think these things have been very well defined so far," said Chester Spatt, finance professor at Carnegie Mellon's Tepper School of Business and former chief economist at the Securities and Exchange Commission. "ESG investing is emerging and increasingly important, and I think this will be a first-order issue on regulators' agenda in the next few years."

Here's what investors should know about this type of investing:

— WHAT DO ALL THESE ACRONYMS LIKE ESG AND SRI MEAN?

These two get used interchangeably sometimes, but "environmental, social and governance" investing can be quite different from "socially responsible investing."

ESG is the more popular acronym now, and it implies managers consider companies' performance on the environment, social issues and corporate governance before investing in them. The thought is to avoid companies with poor track records on ESG issues that could be exposed to big potential fines or other blow-ups in the future. ESG



In this Jan. 6, 2020, file photo wind turbines stand on a hill and are surrounded by fog and clouds in the Taunus region near Frankfurt, Germany.

is as much a tool to reduce risk in investments as anything.

SRI, meanwhile, is more akin to investing alongside one's morals. The term has fallen out of favor with some, though, who worry it's too reminiscent of the industry's earliest funds decades ago that simply excluded tobacco companies and other "sin" stocks rather than doing more rigorous analysis.

— WILL ANY ESG FUND DO?

Not by a long shot. Prepare to do your homework.

To see how nuanced things can get, consider BlackRock's blockbuster announcement. As part of its effort to put climate change at the center of its investment strategy, BlackRock will exit investments in stocks and bonds of certain coal producers.

BlackRock is dumping companies that get more than a quarter of their revenue from thermal coal, which is primarily used in power generation and creates lots of carbon emissions. These investments are risky because of the possibility of profit-reducing regulation and because power plants are increasingly switching to natural gas and other fuels. But BlackRock will still invest in companies that mostly sell coal used in steel plants.

Furthermore, BlackRock is only eliminating thermal coal producers from the portfolios where its managers are actively choosing which stocks and bonds to own. BlackRock's index funds, which account for the bulk of its \$7 trillion in assets under management, will continue to own coal

producers as long as those companies remain in the indexes they track. The most popular index funds tend to track the broad stock market, which means they typically include coal miners, oil explorers and other fossil-fuel companies based on their market value.

For its part, BlackRock

promises to work with index providers to come up with more and better sustainable indexes, which can lead to new index ETFs. But just like an investor can't blindly jump into a "growth" or "value" stock fund and assume they know what the manager's philosophy will be, investors need more details before they consider joining the sustainable investing field.

— DO I HAVE TO ACCEPT LOWER RETURNS?

Some investors, even some big pension funds, assume that limiting the universe of potential investments and having less diversification inevitably leads to either worse returns or more volatility.

But several studies have pushed against this. After looking at the performance of more than 10,000 mutual funds and ETFs from 2004 to 2018, Morgan Stanley found there is no consistent or statistically significant difference in returns between ESG-focused and traditional funds. The study also said that sustainable funds may have less violent swings during down markets. □

Associated Press

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Date: Wednesday, 29 January 2020

Time: 10 AM till 12 PM

Location: Rooi Santo Villa Park, on the Road in front of Wacamaya Apartments



Rooi Santo 124
Listed at \$ 449,900
ID #1551

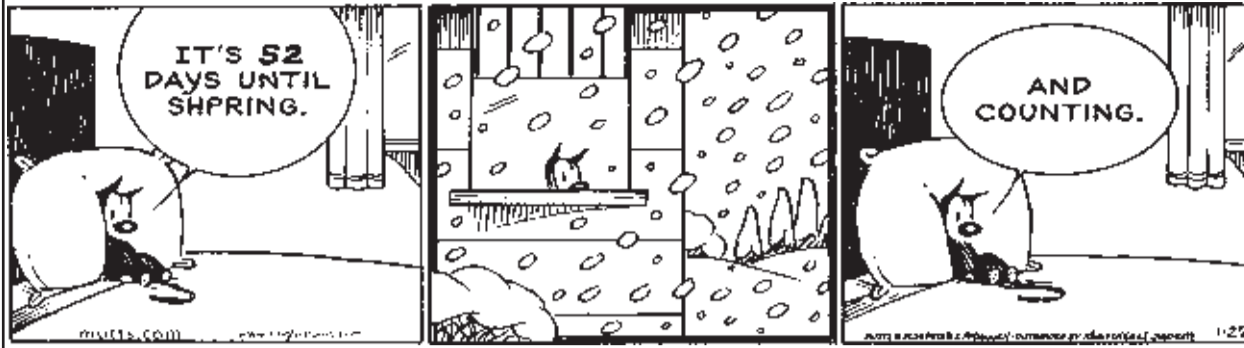
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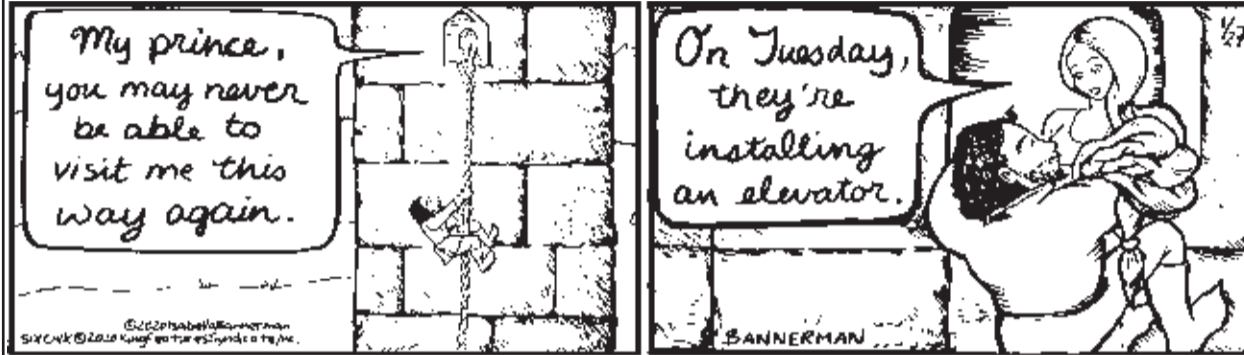
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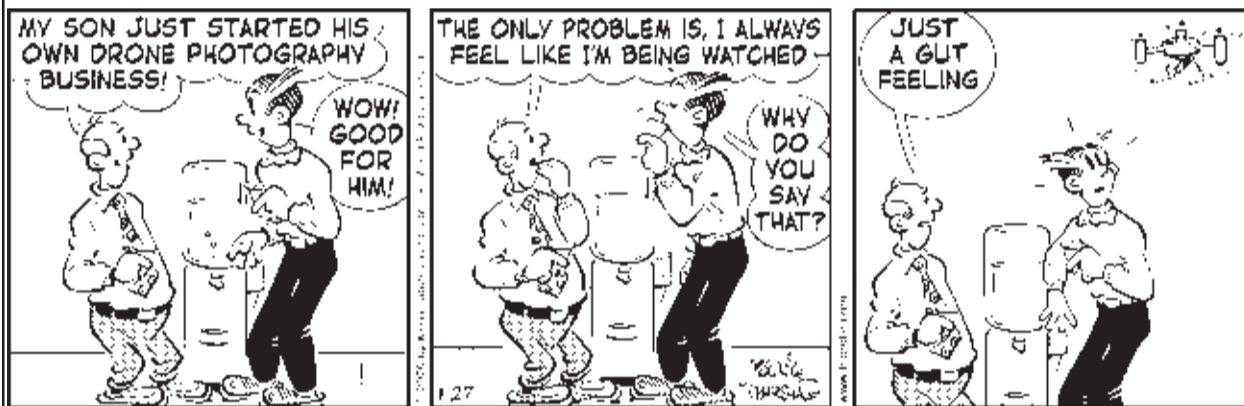
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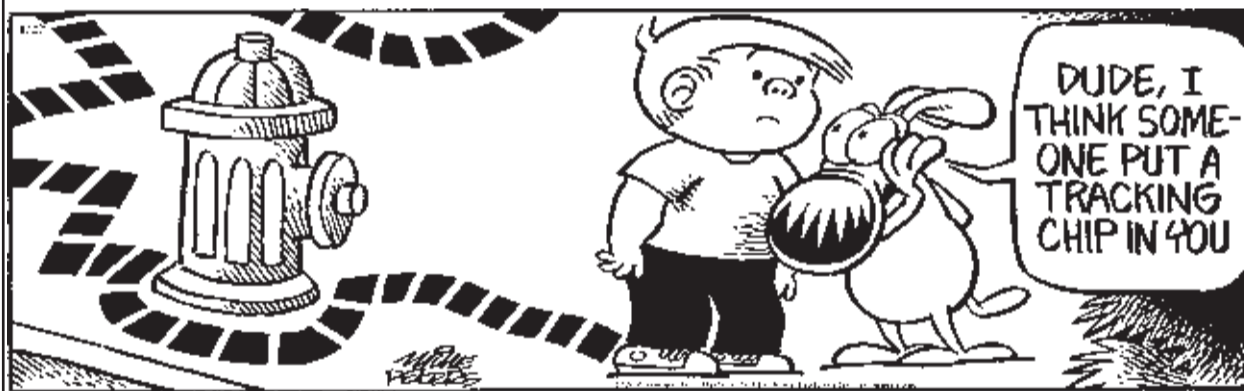
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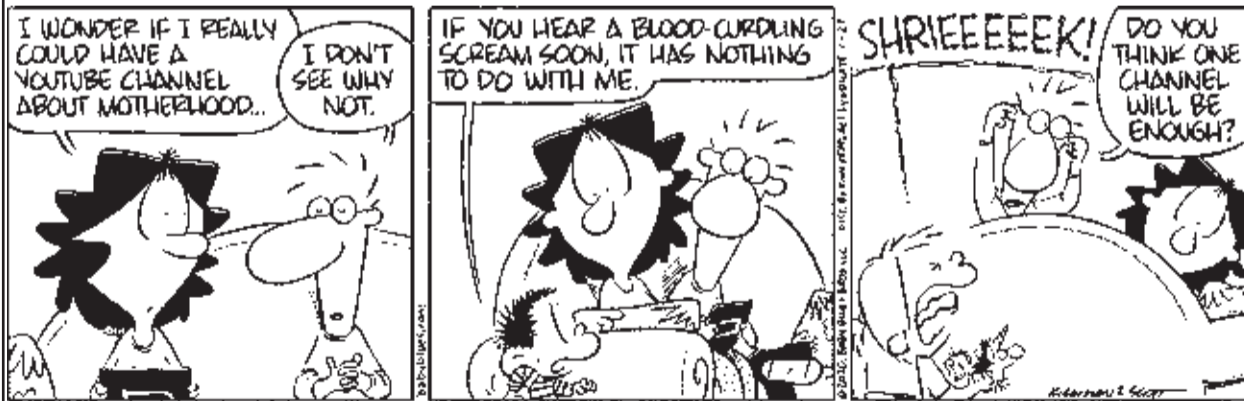
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

1	8	6	2
2	5	1	7
9	1	4	7
7	9	3	6
6			9
4	3	6	7
5	9	3	1
8	1	4	
3	6	2	8

Difficulty Level ★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

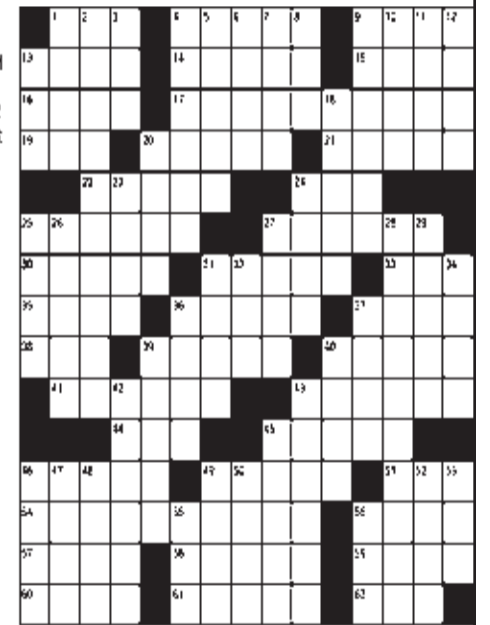
5	1	2	6	4	9	7	8	3
9	8	4	7	2	3	1	6	5
3	7	6	5	8	1	4	9	2
8	4	1	2	3	5	9	7	6
2	3	7	9	6	4	5	1	8
6	5	9	8	1	7	3	2	4
1	6	5	3	7	8	2	4	9
7	2	3	4	9	6	8	5	1
4	9	8	1	5	2	6	3	7

ACROSS

- 1 Untidy crowd
- 4 It's ... words of agreement
- 9 Dublin's resident
- 13 Surfboard support
- 14 Paper cup brand
- 15 What you, other things
- 18 Oper... vigilant
- 17 Too exhausted from labor
- 19 Traditio... piercing spot
- 20 'on
- 21 Docks
- 22 England's dollar
- 24 Vaseline for one
- 25 Visceral-makers
- 27 O sen of totota & TV fame
- 30 Place of relief
- 31 Andes mamma
- 33 Currently
- 35 Tri to one side
- 36 up on: studies about
- 37 Vr Amaz
- 38 Afternoon hour
- 39 Home on the ...
- 40 Bu/s up a nest egg
- 41 Schoolic's compositions
- 43 Luxurious extravagant
- 44 Prefix for print or place
- 45 Parking pro
- 48 The Beverly Hills star
- 49 Pawai or Alaska
- 51 Opening inc
- 54 Gu'aw
- 56 Su... for suit or acid
- 57 out; escape in a parachute
- 58 Biker
- 59 Detective's ho
- 60 Tota's
- 61 Sinarler
- 62 Peg for Mickle'son

DOWN

- 1 Prael Ange ou
- 2 Raised highways
- 3 Flower garden
- 4 Beauties
- 5 Purged in headlights
- 6 Former mates
- 7 Tev'eses
- 8 Actor Ayres
- 9 Like a piercing scream
- 10 Birthday party dessert
- 11 Think ... ponder
- 12 Koppe & Knight
- 13 ... 'W'le Winkie'
- 18 Musica drama
- 20 Litar members
- 23 Fail to include
- 24 Opa's & jades
- 25 Sing a one
- 26 Actor Vichae
- 27 Created
- 28 Certain to happen
- 29 Beaks
- 31 Camera's eye
- 32 Remain behind
- 34 When 'You' Upon a Star
- 36 Sunbeams



Created by Jacqueline E. Matthews 1/27/20

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

L	E	N	A	G	L	O	W	S	S	T	A	R	
E	X	E	S	R	A	D	I	O	H	O	B	O	
T	A	G	S	O	R	D	I	N	A	R	I	L	I
A	M	A	O	A	R	S	F	I	L	E	S		
T	A	W	N	Y	D	I	E						
R	E	I	G	N	S	P	E	R	K	U	P		
E	L	V	E	S	P	R	O	B	E	N	E		
A	V	I	D	G	U	I	L	T	D	A	T	A	
L	I	S	B	I	N	G	O	T	A	T	E	R	
S	M	E	L	L	Y	G	E	N	T	R	Y		
L	I	D	L	A	N	K	A						
W	A	R	D	S	B	E	A	R	T	C	B	S	
E	Q	U	E	S	T	R	I	A	N	S	H	O	P
L	U	G	S	W	O	R	S	E	H	E	R	R	
L	A	S	T	A	D	D	E	R	E	D	G	Y	

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37 Actor Annable	47 Actor Bridges
38 Live umbrella	48 down: die!
40 Store ever:	49 Ca outta cred
42 Aromas	50 Pol's card
43 Shaving cream	52 U.S. flag color
45 Unclear	53 So-so grade
46 Diminishes	55 Regu. at/on
	56 Part of a play

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 Date : 03/20 to 03/27/2020
 Date : 02/21 to 02/27/2020
 Date : 01/17 to 02/22/2021

Marriott Surf Club

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 Date : 03/6 to 03/13/ 2020
 \$4 K

Divi Links Golf

Studio wk 7 \$1,5 K
 sleep 4 date ;02/15 to 02/22/
 2020

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Marriott Ocean Club

Platinum
 1 BR Ocean View \$ 9 K
 1 BR Ocean Front \$20 K
 2 BR Ocean View \$17 K
 2 BR Ocean Front \$26 K
Marriott Surf Club
 Platinum
 2 BR Ocean View \$ 16 K
 2 BR Ocean Side \$ 17 K
 2 BR Ocean Front \$ 26 K
 3 BR Ocean View \$ 26 K

Aruba Divi Phoenix

1 BR WK 2
 building 8 Ground floor
 32 weeks remain \$17 K
 1 BR WK 8 \$15 K
 building 6 on the 4th floor
 27 weeks remain
Aruba Divi Phoenix
 1 BR PH WK 8/9 \$20 K both
 14th floor 32/22 weeks remain
 1 BR WK 11
 building 7 on the 3th floor
 33 weeks remain \$15 K
Divi Links Golf
 1 BR wk 1/2/3
 Birdie 2 on the 3rd floor
 25 weeks remain on each
 All 3 weeks together 30 K each

Divi Links Golf

Studio WK 2 \$7.5 K
 eagle 3 with 32 weeks remain
 1 BR WK 3 \$8.5 K
 eagle 3 with 23 weeks remain
 Studio wk 5 ,7 and 8 \$8 K each
 Birdie 4 with 28/27/29 weeks
 remain

Divi Links Golf

2 BR WK 3 \$ 20 K
 Eagle 8 with 25 weeks remain
 2 BR wk 3 Lock out \$20 K
 Birdie 9 26 weeks remain

Divi Links Golf \$8 K

1 Br Wk 4 Birdie 1
 19 weeks remain
 1 BR WK 6 Birdie 1 \$8 K

Divi Village

1 BR WK 52/01 \$20 K both
 weeks
 3rd floor and 2nd floor
 C -Building 24 /19 weeks remain
 Studio WK 1 \$7.5 K
 Ground Floor 33 weeks remain

Divi Village

1 BR WK 1 \$8.5 K
 Studio wk 1 \$7.5 K
 building D & F 25 weeks remain
 each

Divi Links Golf

Studio wk 1 \$7.5 K
 building 4 with 28 weeks remain

Paradise Beach Villas

1 BR WK 1 & 2 \$20 K both
 weeks

2sd floor poo/ocean view

Divi Links Golf

1 BR wk 8 & 9 \$9.5 K each
 eagle 9 with 27/19 weeks
 remain

Renaissance Suites

1 BR WK # 9 \$ 8 K

4 rd floor overlook

Harbor Ocean View

1 BR WK # 11 \$9 K

3rd floor pool/ocean

Eagle Resorts

1 BR WK 2 \$8 K

1 BR WK 5,6,7,8

Ground floor \$8 K each

1 BR WK 7/8/9 \$8 K each

Caribbean Palm Village

1 BR WK 2 6 K

1 BR /2 BR wk 3 \$ 7 K

1 BR WK 3/4 \$6 K each

2 BR WK 5/6 \$7 K each

Le Vent Condo

3 BR , 2 Bath \$ 650 K

Property Land Tibushie Noord

4208 sq feet \$100 K

Property Land Commercial

Barcadera 145.300 sq feet

\$60 sq feet

Eagle Resort

1 BR wk 2

1 BR wk 3 and 4 same room

\$ 7000 each

212300

Divi Village

Studio wk 6 \$ 7.5 K

building F with 21 weeks remain

2 sd floor 18 weeks remain

Eagle Resort

1 BR week 1,2 ,3,4

ground floor same room

1 BR WK 5,6 ground floor \$6500
 each

Paradise Beach Villas \$4K

studio wk 50 3rd floor pool/
 ocean

2 BR WK 51 /52 on 3 rd floor

\$16K each

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CRUISES



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 Rotterdam
 January 28
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Too soon to tell if new virus as dangerous as SARS cousin

By **LAURAN NEERGAARD**
and **MARIA CHENG**
Associated Press

The new virus from China has the world on edge because it's a close cousin to viruses that killed hundreds in separate outbreaks. While it's too early to tell if this latest threat will prove as deadly, health authorities are drawing on lessons from that grim past.

WHAT'S THE LINK

The new virus comes from a large family of coronaviruses, some causing nothing worse than a cold. But in late 2002, a coronavirus named SARS erupted in southern China, causing a severe pneumonia that rapidly spread to other countries. It infected more than 8,000 people and killed 774 -- and then it disappeared, thanks to public health measures.

In 2012, another coronavirus dubbed MERS began sickening people in Saudi Arabia. It's still hanging around, causing small numbers of infections each year: The World Health Organization has counted nearly 2,500 cases of MERS in the Middle East and beyond, and more than 850 deaths.

So far, deaths from the new virus have been a small fraction of the roughly 1,300 confirmed infections, most of those cases in China.

WHERE DO THESE VIRUSES COME FROM?

SARS and MERS came from animals, and this newest virus almost certainly did, too. The first people infected visited or worked at a seafood market in the Chinese city of Wuhan.

SARS initially was traced to civet cats sold in a live animal market, but later scientists decided it probably originated in bats that infected the civets. People



In this Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2020, file photo, a staff member moves bio-waste containers past the entrance of the Wuhan Medical Treatment Center in Wuhan, China, where some people infected with a new virus are being treated.

can catch MERS from infected camels, although again, bats likely first spread that coronavirus to camels. That animal-to-human jump is a huge concern for all kinds of viruses. Every so often, new strains of bird flu make the jump from Asian live poultry markets to people, for example.

"These wildlife markets are a risk," said Dr. Ian Lipkin of Columbia University, who assisted the WHO and China during the SARS outbreak and advises Saudi Arabia about MERS.

HOW SIMILAR ARE THEY?

Experts can't yet tell whether the new virus called 2019-nCoV -- it stands for "novel coronavirus" -- is more like SARS or MERS. Genetically, they're all closely related but "they really are different viruses," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, infectious diseases chief at the U.S. National Institutes of Health.

One indication of a virus' danger is how easily it spreads from person to person.

Unlike SARS, "it looks like it doesn't transmit through the air very easily and

probably transmits through close contact," said Dr. David Heymann, who headed WHO's global response to SARS. And while it's too soon to be sure, Heymann said the new virus appears most dangerous to older adults who have other health problems.

Complicating matters, if this new virus is fairly mild, it may be harder to stem the spread. That's because people who aren't sick enough to see a doctor and thus don't learn they should be isolated could keep spreading it, noted Neil Ferguson of Imperial College London, who has consulted for WHO. Nor is there any way to know yet how often people become infected but show no obvious symptoms.

"We may see more mild cases as the surveillance intensifies," WHO spokesman Tarik Jasarevic said Friday in Geneva. "So the issue is

not so much really numbers that we know will go up."

IT'S FLU SEASON IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE -- HOW WILL PEOPLE KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

Since symptoms are similar -- fever, cough and in more severe cases shortness of breath or pneumonia -- it'll take a medical test to tell. There is one, but health authorities in China, the U.S. and elsewhere are working to make it more widely available.

Given that it is flu season in China, too, it's "all the more impressive that they were able to recognize this outbreak quickly," Dr. Brian Garibaldi of Johns Hopkins University said.

Precautions that hospitals often use for flu season and for other infectious diseases should help for this, too, Garibaldi added. For example, in many U.S. hospitals people are given masks if they arrive with a fever and cough during flu season. And a legacy of the 2014 West Africa Ebola outbreak -- which also resulted in infected travelers -- is that doctors and hospitals are supposed to ask about recent foreign trips.

HUNTING VACCINES

While there is no vaccine -- or specific treatment -- for SARS or MERS, Fauci said it is technically possible to create a vaccine against this new virus. NIH did develop a potential vaccine candidate for SARS. It proved safe in a small first-step study in people but never was tested further because by then, the outbreak was ending.

This time around, scientists have more of a head start. Just weeks after the first unusual pneumonias were reported, Chinese scientists mapped the genes of the viral suspect and shared them with world health authorities. Now, NIH is among several groups working to create a vaccine for the new virus, using newer and faster technology than was available during SARS. Fauci hopes to begin first-step safety tests in about three months, but something ready for real-world use would take far longer. □

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Librarians honor books by Luiselli and Higginbotham

By **HILLEL ITALIE**
AP National Writer
NEW YORK (AP) —

Valeria Luiselli's novel "Lost Children Archive" and Adam Higginbotham's nonfiction "Midnight in Chernobyl" have been awarded the Andrew Carnegie Medal, a \$5,000 prize presented by the American Library Association.

The awards for fiction and nonfiction were announced Sunday and honor two of last year's most acclaimed books. "Lost Children Archive," a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle prize, blends fiction and documentation as it probes the fates of refugee children. "Midnight in Chernobyl" recounts the 1986 nuclear power disaster and the Soviet Union government's desperate efforts to conceal it.

"We hope that librarians will

find the two Carnegie winners to be powerful and fruitful titles to recommend and discuss," prize committee chair Donna Seaman said in a statement. The awards were announced during the library association's annual mid-winter meeting, held this year in Philadelphia.

Previous Carnegie medal winners include Colson Whitehead's "The Underground Railroad" and Bryan Stevenson's "Just Mercy," adapted into a feature film that is now in theaters.

Both Luiselli and Higginbotham are lifelong fans of libraries. In a recent email to The Associated Press, Luiselli called herself a "radical nerd" and praised the Carnegie prize as "the ultimate radical nerd award." A native of Mexico City, she lived everywhere from Wisconsin to Costa Rica

growing up and remembers attending an American elementary school in South Korea, where she would sneak into the high school library to read horror stories.

Now a resident of New York City, the 36-year-old Luiselli says she has "spent more time in libraries — between the stacks, in silent reading rooms, in the rare books & manuscript sections, and hovering behind the lenses of microfilm readers — than is probably healthy."

"But I have a good pair of reading glasses and anti-histamines in my bag," she adds.

Higginbotham, 51, also knows well the interiors of the New York Public Library system. While working on "Midnight in Chernobyl: The Untold Story of the World's Greatest Nuclear Disaster," he was a visit-



This combination of photos shows cover images for "Lost Children Archive" by Valeria Luiselli, left, and "Midnight in Chernobyl: The Untold Story of the World's Greatest Nuclear Disaster" by Adam Higginbotham, both winners of the Andrew Carnegie Medal, a \$5,000 prize presented by the American Library Association.

Associated Press

ing scholar at the system's main branch in midtown Manhattan, blessed with "a quiet and beautiful place to work, and access to the amazing research collections of libraries in the New York City system and beyond."

Libraries helped inspire the British author's choice of

careers and extend his literary knowledge into unexpected worlds. As a teenager, he found a copy of Kurt Vonnegut's "Slaughterhouse-Five" in the library of the Wells Cathedral School, "at the time perhaps the only example of modern American literature in the entire building." □

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SUN 1:50 | 4:50 | 7:50

PBP MON-FRI 3:50 | 6:15 | 9:10
SAT-SUN 3:20 | 6:15 | 9:10

TURNING
MACKENZIE DAVIS | FINN WOLFHARD
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THU 6:15 | 8:30
FRI 6:15 | 8:30 | 10:15
SAT 1:50 | 4:00 | 6:15 | 8:30 | 10:15
SUN 1:50 | 4:00 | 6:15 | 8:30

PBP MON-THU 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30
FRI 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30 | 11:40
SAT 2:45 | 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30 | 11:40
SUN 2:45 | 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30

DOLITTLE
ROBERT DOWNEY JR. | ANTONIO BANDERAS

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THU 5:50 | 8:15
FRI 5:50 | 8:15 | 10:40
SAT 3:25 | 5:50 | 8:15 | 10:40
SUN 3:25 | 5:50 | 8:15

PBP MON-THU 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00
FRI 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00 | 11:20
SAT 2:00 | 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00 | 11:20
SUN 2:00 | 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00

BAD BOYS FOR LIFE
WILL SMITH | MARTIN LAWRENCE
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THU 7:50
FRI 7:50 | 10:30
SAT 2:20 | 5:05 | 7:50 | 10:30
SUN 2:20 | 5:05 | 7:50

PBP MON-FRI 5:50 | 8:35
SAT-SUN 3:05 | 5:50 | 8:35

1917
DEAN-CHARLES CHAPMAN | GEORGE MACKAY
10 ACADEMY AWARD[®] NOMINATIONS
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
PBP MON-SUN 6:25 | 9:00

JOKER
JOAQUIN PHOENIX | ROBERT DE NIRO
11 ACADEMY AWARD[®] NOMINATIONS
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
PBP MON-THU & SUN 9:10
FRI-SAT 9:10 | 11:45

JUMANJI THE NEXT LEVEL
DWAYNE JOHNSON | JACK BLACK
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
PBP MON-FRI 3:50 | 6:30
SAT-SUN 1:10 | 3:50 | 6:30

UNDERWATER
KRISTEN STEWART | VINCENT CASSEL
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THU 6:05 | 8:20
FRI 6:05 | 8:20 | 10:35
SAT 3:50 | 6:05 | 8:20 | 10:35
SUN 3:50 | 6:05 | 8:20 | 10:35

PBP MON-THU & SUN 7:25 | 9:35
FRI-SAT 7:25 | 9:35 | 11:40

SPIES IN DISGUISE
WILL SMITH | TOM HOLLAND
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PBP MON-FRI 4:05
SAT-SUN 1:45 | 4:05

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Simmons doc, sans Oprah, receives huge ovation at Sundance



Sil Lai Abrams, from back left, director Amy Ziering, director Kirby Dick, Drew Dixon, bottom left, and Sheri Hines pose for a portrait to promote the film "On the Record" at the Music Lodge during

Associated Press

By JAKE COYLE
PARK CITY, Utah (AP) — Without Oprah or Apple, the Russell Simmons documentary "On the Record" went ahead with its premiere Saturday at the Sundance Film Festival, where the women who came forward with sexual assault allegations against the hip-hop mogul received one of the festival's most roaring receptions.

The lead-up to Sundance was especially rocky for "On the Record." Oprah Winfrey, an executive producer, on Jan. 10 withdrew from the film because she felt it needed more reporting. Her exit, which stunned the directors, Kirby Dick and Amy Ziering, also meant "On the Record" no longer had a distributor in Apple TV Plus.

Ahead of the film's pre-

miere, Ziering thanked Sundance "for standing strong and never blinking." "On the Record" is centered on the story of Drew Dixon, a former music executive for Def Jam Recordings, the record label co-founded by Simmons. It chronicles her decision to come forward and go on the record in a 2017 New York Times article, along with numerous other women, in accusing Simmons of harassment and rape.

Simmons has denied any wrongdoing. The filmmakers said he declined to be interviewed for the film. More than a dozen other women, many of whom also appear in "On the Record," have also come forward with allegations of assault or harassment against Simmons. Along with Dixon, in attendance Saturday

were Sheri Hines, a member of the all-female hip-hop group Mercedes Ladies who alleged that Simmons raped her in his office in the early 1980s; and Sil Lai Abrams, who has said Simmons raped her in 1994. The premiere was for Dixon, Hines and Abrams an emotional culmination of a painful two weeks. In an interview the following morning, Hines said Winfrey's withdrawal from the film "was a hard blow because I looked up to her."

"The past 15 days have been traumatic," said Dixon. "Definitely lots of extra therapy sessions. Lots of anxiety. Lots of physical manifestations of anxiety. Not a lot of sleep. Not how I wanted to prepare for Sundance."

Abrams said Winfrey's absence, in the end, didn't matter. "What's important is that the film premiered without her and it has gotten great reviews," said Abrams. "And more importantly, we're here and we're telling our stories."

In the crowd in Park City was the actress Rosanna Arquette, who has accused Harvey Weinstein of sexual harassment. Arquette stood up during the Q&A to salute the women in the film. "I'm so proud of you," she said.



"On the Record" also delves into the place black women have in the #MeToo movement and the racial dimensions of sexual assault. □

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Bad Boys,' '1917' best 'The Gentleman' at box office

PARK CITY, Utah (AP) — "Boys" trumped "Gentlemen" in movie theaters over the weekend as Will Smith and Martin Lawrence's "Bad Boys for Life" easily remained the top ticket seller over newcomer "The Gentlemen." The third "Bad Boys" film, coming 17 years after "Bad Boys II," sold \$34 million in tickets in its second weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday. The R-rated action comedy from Sony Pictures, which cost about \$90 million to make, has grossed \$120.6 million in two weeks domestically. Second place went to Sam Mendes' "1917," which added theaters in its fifth week of release to keep pace with its Academy Awards momentum. The film grossed \$15.8 million over the weekend to bring its North American total to \$103.9 million. Worldwide, it's taken in \$200.5 million. It was a good weekend

for "1917." On Saturday night, Mendes took the top prize at the Directors Guild Awards, solidifying the World War I tale as the clear Oscar frontrunner and Mendes as the favorite for best director. The film earlier triumphed at the highly predictive Producers Guild Awards. And its venerated cinematographer, Roger Deakins, also won the American Society of Cinematographers award on Saturday. The weekend's top new release was Guy Ritchie's star-studded gangster film "The Gentlemen." The STX-films release came in on the high side of expectations with \$11 million in ticket sales. The film, a return to the criminal underworld for Ritchie ("Aladdin," "Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels"), stars Matthew McConaughey as a American expat with a London marijuana empire under threat. Reviews were fairly



This image released by Sony Pictures shows Martin Lawrence, right, and Will Smith in a scene from "Bad Boys for Life."

Associated Press

strong for "The Gentlemen" (72% fresh on Rotten Tomatoes) though many critics saw traces of racism in the

film's depictions. The Universal horror film "The Turning," a modern adaptation of Henry

James' "The Turn of the Screw" that drew terrible reviews, collected \$7.3 million in its debut weekend. □

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